



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
DRAFT PERMIT April 30, 2019
TO WITHDRAW GROUNDWATER IN THE
EASTERN SHORE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA

Permit Number: GW0074500

Effective Date: XXXXXXXX XX, 2019

Expiration Date: XXXXXXXX XX, 2034

Pursuant to Section 62.1-256 of the Ground Water Management Act of 1992 (Chapter 25, Title 62.1 of the Code of Virginia) and the Groundwater Withdrawal Regulations (Regulations) (9VAC25-610-10 *et seq.*), the State Water Control Board (Board) hereby authorizes the Permittee to withdraw and use groundwater in accordance with this permit.

Permittee McChicken Farms, LLC
Facility McChicken Farms
Facility Address 30151 Drummondtown Rd
Melfa, Virginia 23410

The Permittee's authorized groundwater withdrawal shall not exceed:

10,000,000 gallons per year,
2,500,000 gallons per month.

The permitted withdrawal will be used to provide an agricultural water supply. Other uses are not authorized by this permit.

The Permittee shall comply with all conditions and requirements of the permit.

By direction of the State Water Control Board, this Permit is granted by:

Signed _____

Date _____

Director, Office of Water Supply

This permit is based on the Permittee's application submitted on December 12, 2017, and subsequently amended to include supplemental information provided by the Permittee. The following are conditions that govern the system set-up and operation, monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping pertinent to the Regulations.

Part I Operating Conditions

A. Authorized Withdrawal

1. The withdrawal of groundwater shall be limited to the following wells identified in the table below. Withdrawals from wells not included in Table 1 are not authorized by this permit and are therefore prohibited. 9VAC25-610-140.A

Table 1

Owner Well Name	DEQ Well #	Well Depth (ft)	Screen Intervals	Aquifer	Latitude	Longitude	Datum
Well 1	100-01439	280	265-280	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	37° 37' 51.07"	-75° 41' 57.78"	WGS84
Well 2	100-01440	280	265-280	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	37° 37' 50.69"	-75° 41' 56.92"	WGS84
Well 3	100-01441	280	265-280	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	37° 37' 48.46"	-75° 41' 56.62"	WGS84
Well 4	100-01442	280	265-280	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	37° 37' 48.13"	-75° 41' 56.06"	WGS84
Well 5	100-01443	280	265-280	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	37° 37' 46.18"	-75° 41' 57.54"	WGS84
Well 6	100-01444	280	265-280	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	37° 37' 46.20"	-75° 41' 59.08"	WGS84
Well 7	100-01445	280	265-280	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	37° 37' 43.91"	-75° 41' 58.01"	WGS84
Well 8	100-01446	280	265-280	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	37° 37' 43.87"	-75° 41' 58.36"	WGS84

2. Any actions that result in a change to the well operation, construction, or pump intake setting of wells included in this permit must be pre-approved by the Department of Environmental Quality (Department) in writing prior to implementing the change and a revised GW-2 Form must be submitted to the Department within 30 days after the physical construction of a well is altered or the pump intake setting has been changed. If changes are a result of an emergency, notify the Department within 5 days from the change. 9VAC25-610-140.C

B. Pump Intake Settings

1. The Permittee shall not place a pump or water intake device lower than the top of the uppermost confined aquifer that a well utilizes as a groundwater source or lower than the bottom of an unconfined aquifer that a well utilizes as a groundwater source in order to prevent dewatering of the

aquifer, loss of inelastic storage, or damage to the aquifer from compaction. 9VAC25-610-140.A.6

2. Pump settings in individual wells are limited as follows. Any change in the pump setting must receive prior approval by the Department.

Owner Well Name	DEQ Well #	Max Pump Setting (feet below land surface)
Well 1	100-01439	240
Well 2	100-01440	240
Well 3	100-01441	240
Well 4	100-01442	240
Well 5	100-01443	240
Well 6	100-01444	240
Well 7	100-01445	240
Well 8	100-01446	240

C. Reporting

1. Water withdrawn from each well shall be recorded consistently at the end of each month and reported to the Office of Water Supply, in paper or electronic format, on a form provided by the Department by the tenth (10th) day of each January, April, July and October for the respective previous calendar quarter. Records of water use shall be maintained by the Permittee in accordance with Part III.F, 1 through 5 of this permit. 9VAC25-610-140.A.9
2. The Permittee shall report any amount in excess of the permitted withdrawal limit by the fifth (5th) day of the month following the month when such a withdrawal occurred. Failure to report may result in compliance or enforcement activities. 9VAC25-610-140.C
3. The following is a summary of reporting requirements for specific facility wells:

Owner Well Name	DEQ Well #	Reporting Requirements
Well 1	100-01439	Water Use, Water Quality
Well 2	100-01440	Water Use
Well 3	100-01441	Water Use
Well 4	100-01442	Water Use
Well 5	100-01443	Water Use
Well 6	100-01444	Water Use
Well 7	100-01445	Water Use
Well 8	100-01446	Water Use

D. Water Conservation and Management Plan

1. The Water Conservation and Management Plan (WCMP) submitted in the application received December 12, 2017 and subsequently amended and then approved by the Department is incorporated by reference into this permit and shall have the same effect as any condition contained in this permit and may be enforced as such.
2. By the end of the first year of the permit cycle [date] the Permittee shall submit a detailed description of their leak detection and repair program activities and documentation to the Department that these activities have been conducted. This documentation shall include frequency of

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the activities completed and the findings and results of the activities during the first year of the permit term. 9VAC25-610-100.B.1.b,2.b,or 3.b

3. As soon as completed but not later than the end of the second year of the permit cycle [date], the Permittee shall submit to the Department results of a 12 month audit of the total amount of groundwater used in the distribution system and the separate amounts used for drinking and cooling. This audit report shall include the flock cycle start and end dates during the year, and any necessary changes to the leak detection and repair program or operations that affected water use. 9VAC25-610-100.B.1.b,2.b,or 3.b
4. A report on the plan's effectiveness in maintaining or reducing water use and a summary of proposed revisions to the WCMP to address any elements that can be improved based on operations to date shall be submitted by the end of years five [date] and ten [date] of the permit term. These reports shall include as appropriate: 9VAC25-610-140.C
 - a. Any new water saving equipment installed or water saving processes adopted;
 - b. A summary of the operation of the cooling system for the houses during the report period including what months the cooling system was operated;
 - c. Evaluation of the leak detection and repair program with a summary of any significant leaks found and repaired; and
 - d. A summary of the flock cycles and overall water use patterns for each year covered by the report.
5. If revisions or additions to the plan are necessary an updated WCMP shall be submitted to the Department for approval along with the report prior to implementation of the revised plan
6. Records of activities conducted pursuant to the WCMP are to be submitted to DEQ upon request.

E. Mitigation Plan

The Mitigation Plan approved on June 15, 2018 by the Department is incorporated by reference into this permit and shall have the same effect as any condition contained in this permit and may be enforced as such. 9VAC25-610-110.D.3.g

F. Well Tags

1. Each well that is included in this permit shall have affixed to the well casing, in a prominent place, a permanent well identification plate that records, at a minimum, the DEQ well identification number, the groundwater withdrawal permit number, the total depth of the well, and the screened intervals in the well. Such well identification plates shall be in a format specified by the Board and are available from the Department. 9VAC25-610-140.A.12
2. Well tags shall be affixed to the appropriate well casing within 30 days of receiving the tags from the Department. The accompanying well tag installation certification form shall be returned to the Department within 60 days of receipt of the tags. 9VAC25-610-140.C

Part II Special Conditions

Pursuant to 9VAC25-610-140.B and C, the following Special Conditions apply to this permit in order to protect the public welfare, safety, and health or conserve, protect and help ensure the beneficial use of groundwater.

A. Meter Installation Verification/Correction

If notified by DEQ through an inspection report that meters meeting the requirements set forth in Part III Condition I of this permit have not been correctly installed on each production well in such a manner as to record total withdrawals from the well including both cooling water and drinking water, the Permittee shall correct any identified meter issues within 60 days of notification.

B. Water Quality Monitoring

1. The following water quality parameters shall be monitored prior to any treatment as specified below:

Owner Well Name	DEQ Well Number	Parameter	Units	Frequency	Test Method
Well 1	100-01439	Chloride	mg/L	1 per 3 Months ^(a)	(b)

(a) "1 per 3 Months" means one sample taken every February, May, August, and November, to be submitted as part of the quarterly Groundwater Withdrawal Report due no later than April 10th, July 10th, October 10th, and January 10th respectively.

(b) Any approved method presented in 40 CFR Part 136.

2. Prior to collecting the sample, the well shall be pumped sufficiently to withdraw at least three well volumes and the pH, temperature, and conductivity of the discharge shall be stabilized.
3. Records of groundwater quality sampling results, including documentation of pH, temperature, and conductivity stabilization prior to sampling, shall be maintained by the permittee as required in 9VAC25-610-130.F.
4. See Parts III.F and III.G of this permit for additional monitoring and reporting requirements.

C. Alternative Source Investigation

1. By September 30, 2022 the Permittee shall conduct an investigation of the surficial aquifer (Columbia) to evaluate the ability of the surficial aquifer to provide all or part of the water supply needs for the facility. The investigation shall include water quality and pump test data collected from a surficial aquifer test well constructed on-site with Department oversight to ensure the well is properly screened in the surficial aquifer. A geophysical log shall be obtained from the surficial aquifer test well per Part III.K of the permit unless a geophysical log collected from an existing production well is accepted by DEQ as representing the Columbia aquifer at the test well location. An existing well screened in the surficial aquifer located on or near the facility property may be used

where approved by DEQ as an alternative. An existing well must have sufficient well construction information available to verify it is screened in the surficial aquifer and properly constructed in order to be considered.

2. A report on the results of the investigation shall be provided to DEQ by March 31, 2023.

Part III

General Conditions

A. Duty to Comply

The Permittee shall comply with all conditions of the permit. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permit holder of the duty to comply with all applicable federal and state statutes, regulations and prohibitions. Any permit violation is a violation of the law and is grounds for enforcement action, permit termination, revocation, modification, or denial of a permit application. 9VAC25-610-130.A

B. Duty to Cease or Confine Activity

It shall not be a defense for a Permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the activity for which a permit has been granted in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of the permit. 9VAC25-610-130.B

C. Duty to Mitigate

The Permittee shall take all reasonable steps to avoid all adverse impacts that may result from this withdrawal as defined in 9VAC25-610-10 and provide mitigation of the adverse impact when necessary as described in 9VAC25-610-110.D.3.g. 9VAC25-610-130.C

D. Inspection, Entry, and Information Requests

Upon presentation of credentials, the Permittee shall allow the Board, the Department, or any duly authorized agent of the Board, at reasonable times and under reasonable circumstances, to enter upon the Permittee's property, public or private, and have access to, inspect and copy any records that must be kept as part of the permit conditions, and to inspect any facilities, well(s), water supply system, operations, or practices (including sampling, monitoring and withdrawal) regulated or required under the permit. For the purpose of this section, the time for inspection shall be deemed reasonable during regular business hours. Nothing contained herein shall make an inspection time unreasonable during an emergency. 9VAC25-610-130.D

E. Duty to Provide Information

The Permittee shall furnish to the Board or Department, within a reasonable time, any information that the Board may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying or revoking, reissuing, or terminating the permit, or to determine compliance with the permit. The Permittee shall also furnish to the Board or Department, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by regulation or this permit. 9VAC25-610-130.E

F. Monitoring and Records Requirements

1. The Permittee shall maintain a copy of the permit on-site and/or shall make the permit available upon request. 9VAC25-610-130.E
2. Monitoring of parameters shall be conducted according to approved analytical methods as specified in the permit. 9VAC25-610-130.F.1
3. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity. 9VAC25-610-130.F.2
4. The Permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart or electronic recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by the permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for the permit, for a period of at least three years from the date of the expiration of a granted permit. This period may be extended by request of the Board at any time. 9VAC25-610-130.F.3
5. Records of monitoring information shall include as appropriate: 9VAC25-610-130.F.4
 - a. the date, exact place and time of sampling or measurements;
 - b. the name(s) of the individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
 - c. the date the analyses were performed;
 - d. the name(s) of the individual(s) who performed the analyses;
 - e. the analytical techniques or methods supporting the information, such as observations,
 - f. readings, calculations and bench data used;
 - g. the results of such analyses; and
 - h. chain of custody documentation.

G. Environmental Laboratory Certification

The Permittee shall comply with the requirement for certification of laboratories conducting any tests, analyses, measurements, or monitoring required pursuant to the State Water Control Law (§ [62.1-44.2](#) et seq.), Environmental Laboratory Certification Program (§ 2.2-1105et seq.), Certification for Noncommercial Environmental Laboratories (1VAC30-45), and/or Accreditation for Commercial Environmental Laboratories (1VAC30-46), and

- a. Ensure that all samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.

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- b. Conduct monitoring according to procedures approved under 40CFR Part 136 or alternative methods approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- c. Periodically calibrate and perform maintenance procedures on all monitoring and analytical instrumentation at intervals that will ensure accuracy of measurements. (1VAC30-45-20)

H. Future Permitting Actions

1. A permit may be modified or revoked as set forth in Part VI of the Regulations. 9VAC25-610-290 and 9VAC25-610-130.G
2. If a Permittee files a request for permit modification or revocation, or files a notification of planned changes, or anticipated noncompliance, the permit terms and conditions shall remain effective until the Board makes a final case decision. This provision shall not be used to extend the expiration date of the effective permit. 9VAC25-610-130.G
3. Permits may be modified or revoked upon the request of the Permittee, or upon Board initiative, to reflect the requirements of any changes in the statutes or regulations. 9VAC25-610-130.G
4. The Permittee shall schedule a meeting with the Department prior to submitting a new, expanded or modified permit application. 9VAC25-610-85
5. A new permit application shall be submitted 270 days prior to the expiration date of this permit, unless permission for a later date has been granted by the Board, to continue a withdrawal greater than or equal to 300,000 gallons in any month while an application for a renewal is being processed. 9VAC25-610-96
6. A new permit application shall be submitted 270 days prior to any proposed modification to this permit that will (i) result in an increase of withdrawal above permitted limits; or (ii) violate the terms and conditions of this permit. 9VAC25-610-96
7. The applicant shall provide all information described in 9VAC25-610-94 for any reapplication. 9VAC25-610-96.C
8. The Permittee must notify the Department in writing of any changes to owner and facility contact information within 30 days of the change. 9VAC25-610-140.C

I. Metering and Equipment Requirements

1. Each well and/or impoundment or impoundment system shall have an in-line totalizing flow meter to read gallons, cubic feet, or cubic meters installed prior to beginning the permitted use. Meters shall produce volume determinations within plus or minus 10% of actual flows. 9VAC25-610-140.A.7.b
 - a. A defective meter or other device must be repaired or replaced within 30 days.
 - b. A defective meter is not grounds for not reporting withdrawals. During any period when a meter is defective, generally accepted engineering methods shall be used to estimate withdrawals. The period during which the meter was defective must be clearly identified in

the groundwater withdrawal report required by Part I, Subsection D of this permit. An alternative method for determining flow may be approved by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

2. Each well shall be equipped in a manner such that water levels can be measured during pumping and non-pumping periods without dismantling any equipment. Any opening for tape measurement of water levels shall have an inside diameter of at least 0.5 inches and be sealed by a removable plug or cap. The Permittee shall provide a tap for taking raw water samples from each permitted well. 9VAC25-610-140.A.7.e

J. Minor Modifications

1. A minor modification to this permit must be made to replace an existing well(s) or add an additional well(s) provided that the well(s) is screened in the same aquifer(s) as the existing well(s), and is in the near vicinity of the existing well(s), the total groundwater withdrawal does not increase, the area of impact does not increase, and the well has been approved by the Department prior to construction. 9VAC25-610-330.B.4 and 5
2. A minor modification to this permit must be made to combine withdrawals governed by multiple permits when the systems are physically connected as long as interconnection will not result in additional groundwater withdrawal and the area of impact will not increase. 9VAC25-610-330.B.6
3. Minor modifications to this permit must also be made to:
 - a. Change an interim compliance date up to 120 days from the original compliance date, as long as the change does not interfere with the final compliance date. 9VAC25-610-330.B.7
 - b. Allow for change in ownership when the Board determines no other change in the permit is necessary and the appropriate written agreements are provided in accordance with the transferability of permits and special exceptions. 9VAC25-610-320 and 9VAC25-610-330.B.8
 - c. Revise a Water Conservation and Management Plan to update conservation measures being implemented by the Permittee that increase the amount of groundwater conserved. 9VAC25-610-330.B.9

K. Well Construction

At least 30 days prior to the scheduled construction of any well(s), the Permittee shall notify the Department of the construction timetable and receive prior approval of the well(s) location(s) and acquire the DEQ Well number. All wells shall be constructed in accordance with the following requirements.

1. A well site approval letter or well construction permit must be obtained from the Virginia Department of Health prior to construction of the well. 9VAC25-610-130.A
2. A complete suite of geophysical logs (Spontaneous Potential, Single Point Resistance, 16/64 Short and Long Normal, Natural Gamma) shall be completed for the well and submitted to the Department

along with the corresponding completion report. 9VAC25-610-140.C

3. The Permittee shall evaluate the geophysical log and driller's log information to estimate the top of the target aquifer and; therefore, a depth below which the pump shall not be set. The Permittee's determination of the top of the target aquifer shall be submitted to the Department for review and approval, or approved on site by the Department's Groundwater Characterization staff, prior to installation of any pump. 9VAC25-610-140.A.6
4. The Permittee shall install gravel packs and grout in a manner that prevents leakage between aquifers. Gravel pack shall be terminated close to the top of the well screen(s) and shall not extend above the top of the target aquifer. 9VAC25-610-140.C
5. A completed GW-2 Form and any additional water well construction documents shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days of the completion of any well and prior to the initiation of any withdrawal from the well. 9VAC25-610-140.C. The assigned DEQ Well number shall be included on all well documents. 9VAC25-610-140.C
6. In addition to the above requirements, construction of a Water Level Monitoring State Observation Well (SOW) requires:
 - a. The Permittee shall coordinate activities with the Department's Groundwater Characterization Program (GWCP) to determine the appropriate observation well location and construction schedule, along with the needed screen interval(s), and other completion details following review of geophysical logging. 9VAC25-610-140.C
 - b. Prior to preparation of bid documents for construction of the observation well, the Permittee shall notify the Department and shall include any GWCP requirements in the bid documents. At a minimum, the Department will require a pre-bid meeting with interested drilling contractors and a pre-construction meeting with the successful bidder. 9VAC25-610-140.C
 - c. Instrumentation to meet the requirements for real-time data transmission consistent with the State Observation Well Network shall be purchased by the Permittee. The Permittee shall submit a purchase order based on the Department's equipment specifications for review and approval prior to purchase of the equipment. The Permittee shall not be required to install the equipment. 9VAC25-610-140.C
7. In addition to the above requirements, construction of a Chloride Monitoring SOW requires:
 - a. The Permittee shall coordinate activities with the Department's Groundwater Characterization Program (GWCP) to determine the appropriate observation well location and construction schedule, along with the needed screen interval(s), and other completion details following review of geophysical logging. 9VAC25-610-140.C
 - b. Prior to preparation of bid documents for construction of the observation well, the Permittee shall notify the Department and shall include any GWCP requirements in the bid documents. At a minimum, the Department will require a pre-bid meeting with interested drilling contractors and a pre-construction meeting with the successful bidder. 9VAC25-610-140.C

- c. Instrumentation to meet the requirements for real-time data transmission consistent with the State Observation Well Network shall be purchased by the Permittee. The Permittee shall submit a purchase order based on the Department's equipment specifications for review and approval prior to purchase of the equipment. The Permittee shall not be required to install the equipment. 9VAC25-610-140.C
- d. Instrumentation to meet the requirements for continuous measurement of specific conductance from multiple levels within the well screen shall be purchased by the Permittee. The Permittee shall submit a purchase order based on the Department's equipment specifications for review and approval prior to purchase of the equipment. The Permittee shall not be required to install the equipment. 9VAC25-610-140.C

L. Permit Reopening

This permit may be reopened for the purpose of modifying the conditions of the permit as follows:

- a. To meet new regulatory standards duly adopted by the Board. 9VAC25-610-140.A.11
- b. When new information becomes available about the permitted withdrawal, or the impact of the withdrawal, which had not been available at permit issuance and would have justified the application of different conditions at the time of issuance. 9VAC25-610-310.B.1
- c. When the reported withdrawal is less than 60% of the permitted withdrawal amount for a five year period. 9VAC25-610-310.B.2
- d. If monitoring information indicates the potential for adverse impacts to groundwater quality or level due to this withdrawal. 9VAC25-610-140.C

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

PERMIT ISSUANCE FACT SHEET

Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Number: GW0074500

Application Date: December 12, 2017

The Department of Environmental Quality (Department or DEQ) has reviewed the application for a Groundwater Withdrawal Permit. Based on the information provided in the application and subsequent revisions, DEQ has determined that there is a reasonable assurance that the activity authorized by the permit is a beneficial use as defined by the regulations. Groundwater impacts have been minimized to the maximum extent practicable. The following details the application review process and summarizes relevant information for developing the Permit and applicable conditions.

Permittee / Legal Responsible Party

Name & Address: McChicken Farms, LLC
30054 Drummondtown Rd
Melfa, Virginia 23410
Phone: (757) 787-7304

Facility Name and Address

Name & Address: McChicken Farms
30151 Drummondtown Rd
Melfa, Virginia 23410
Phone: (757) 787-7304

Contact Information:

Name: B.E. Turlington
E-mail: jdnutty1@yahoo.com
Phone: (757) 787-7304

Proposed Beneficial Use:

The proposed use for this withdrawal is for agriculture. Withdrawals will supply a poultry growing operation with water for cooling of chicken houses as well as for direct consumption by poultry.

Processing Dates

Processing Action	Date Occurred/Received
Pre-Application Meeting:	November 01, 2017
Application Received:	December 18, 2017
Permit Fee Deposited by Accounting:	Not Applicable
Notice of Deficiency Sent	Not Applicable
Response to Notice of Deficiency Received:	Not Applicable
Request for Additional Information Sent:	April 23, 2018
Response to Request for Additional Information Received:	April 26, 2018
Local Government Ordinance Form Received:	March 25, 2019
Application Complete:	June 15, 2018
Submit Request for Technical Evaluation:	December 18, 2018
Technical Evaluation Received:	February 19, 2019
Draft Permit Package Sent:	TBD
Submit Draft Permit for Public Notice:	TBD
Public Notice Published:	TBD
End of 30-Day Public Comment Period:	TBD
Response to Public comment:	TBD
Public Meeting or Hearing:	TBD

Application

Application Information

McChicken Farms is a poultry farm owned by McChicken Farms LLC, and located in Accomack County. McChicken Farms has eight poultry houses and eight production wells. The houses are all 66 x 600 feet in size. The farm produces broilers that will average around 6.75 lbs at maturity and expects to have an average of 46,000 birds per house. Additional information on how water is used at the farm is discussed in the basis of need section of the fact sheet.

The facility was constructed in 2017-2018 with the wells installed in 2018. DEQ geologists were on-site during the construction of the wells to oversee collection of geophysical logs.

Location of Facility/Withdrawal:

Water Supply Planning Unit: Accomack & Northampton

County: Accomack County

GWMA/Aquifer: Eastern Shore/ Lower Yorktown-Eastover

Conjunctive Use Source: This system uses no surface water and is therefore not a conjunctive use

system.

Withdrawal Use, Current Need, and Projected Demand:

Basis of Need:

Poultry farms use groundwater to provide drinking water to the birds as well as to supply water to either misting systems or evaporative cooling pads designed to regulate temperatures in the house and keep the birds cool. Cooling is primarily required in summer.

Water use for poultry farms varies seasonally as well as in response to the poultry life cycle. Generally during winter, fall, and spring, facility withdrawals rise and fall in a predictable pattern every 50-60 days, or the length of time it takes to raise a flock, with increased usage primarily resulting from increased water consumption as the birds gain weight. This water use pattern starts with low water consumption volumes for chick development and peaks in the last 20-30 days as growers seek to maximize adult weight gains. Typically, farms raise around five flocks per year with this cycle repeating each time. During the summer, withdrawal volumes increase due to additional water usage for flock cooling purposes.

Water volumes used for consumption are controlled by a computer system that provides water to the drinker system, which provides access to water for the birds but limits spillage or excess moisture from entering the house. Avoiding excess moisture is critical to bird health and as a result careful conservation of water is already a key tenet of management in a broiler house. The computer tracks water supplied to the drinking system and records the volume. This data was maintained by some farms but in many cases was not recorded long-term. Where available, data from the computer is discussed in the historic withdrawals section of the factsheet.

The cooling systems are operated based on temperature and humidity and while usage is typically restricted to summers, operation of the cooling systems tends to vary between farms. Historically, water supplied to the cooling systems was not metered so very limited data is available on usage.

Water Demand Projection: Water demands were based on estimated drinking and cooling water amounts needed to supply all the system houses. Proposed withdrawal limits were calculated based on the total of both consumption (drinking water) and cooling. Water use for consumption was calculated based on an average daily consumption value for a comparable farm provided by the integrator.

As no data on volumes used for cooling was available from farms operating on the shore, a procedure for estimating water use for cooling was developed for use based on discussions with industry stakeholders, individual farmers, and a review of available literature. House size and cooling fan capacity were identified as the major variables determining water use for cooling poultry houses. A formula based on 1.6 gallons per year per cubic foot per minute (cfm) of cooling fan capacity was determined to be representative for the Delmarva area poultry industry. The major variable for cooling fan capacity is the width of the house as that provides for the number and size of cooling fans that can be installed. The combined total width of the houses for the facility was used as the basis to estimate cooling water use. The water use calculations are attached to the fact sheet. The permit requires metering of the wells to record total water use and actual amounts used for cooling will be collected.

Water demands are not expected to change as the amount requested represents the maximum capacity of the farm and no additional houses are considered in this permit. Therefore, no projections are included for this facility.

Withdrawal Volumes Requested: The applicant requested the following withdrawal volumes based upon the projected groundwater demand.

Period of Withdrawal	Actual Volume (gal.)	Volume in MGD
Maximum Monthly:	2,469,120	0.082
Maximum Annual:	9,948,040	0.028

DEQ Evaluation

Historic Withdrawals:

No record of historic withdrawals was available for this facility as the facility was recently constructed. Refer to the DEQ Recommended Withdrawal Limits section for more information on how water use was estimated.

Analysis of Alternative Water Supplies: The Eastern Shore of Virginia is an area primarily served by groundwater with the majority of withdrawals coming from the three confined Yorktown-Eastover (Upper/Middle/Lower) aquifers. There is limited surface water availability with the majority of streams being too small to supply sufficient water for most purposes, larger water bodies are typically tidally influenced, and water quality concerns have limited the development of these sources. Withdrawals from the surficial aquifer, or water table, are one viable alternative to withdrawals from the confined system. While withdrawals from the surficial aquifer can present additional water quality challenges in the form of iron forming bacteria and increased vulnerability to surface contaminants, it may be viable in some locations where capacity and quality are sufficient. In general, drinking water for poultry must be of higher quality than the cooling water. In most cases, site-specific data will be necessary to determine the viability of the surficial aquifer and to determine what portions of the use it can supply.

Public Water Supply: The proposed withdrawal does not contain a public water supply component.

Water Supply Plan Review: A Water Supply Planner coordination request was sent on September 10, 2018 and a response was received on January 9, 2019. The response noted several key items.

The Accomack County Regional Water Supply Plan (Plan) includes irrigating agricultural facilities using both groundwater and surface water, with current permitted amounts sufficient to meet demands into 2040. The plan, however, does not include existing poultry farms in their assessments. While the seafood industry could also show future growth in the region, Section 4.0 of the ANPDC Groundwater Management Plan details industrial water for seafood and poultry processing, noting over 90% of industrial groundwater usage is related to poultry processing. WSP Staff note existing water quality concerns for surface waters and no significant water surpluses or sources in Accomack County to serve as alternative sources. Additionally, WSP staff reviewed the current alternatives under consideration, such as water table wells, and noted that the ability of the National Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Environmental Quality

Incentives Program (EQIP) program to fund such efforts is currently unknown. The current lack of inclusion of poultry in the region's plan, existing water quality and alternative source concerns, and the unknown status of funding for alternative development underlines potential regional resource concerns to be addressed in future planning efforts.

DEQ Recommended Withdrawal Limits: The recommended withdrawal limits are based on the total of both consumption (drinking water) and cooling. Water use for consumption was evaluated based on computer controller data from a comparable farm. The consumption data from a comparable farm was provided and DEQ staff reviewed the data and determined it provided a reasonable basis for estimating monthly and annual consumption for the facility.

DEQ staff evaluated the volumes requested for cooling and determined they were accurately calculated using the procedure discussed in more detail above. Given the lack of data available for evaluating poultry water use, DEQ believes the methods employed are conservative enough to provide sufficient water for the farm to continue operation while still providing a reasonable limit for the permits. It is expected that as more metered data becomes available, withdrawal limits may be reduced in cases where actual water use is significantly lower than the permit limits. Permittees should also note that the maximum monthly limit is higher than the annual use divided by 12 (average monthly use) to allow flexibility and using near the maximum monthly limit frequently may cause an exceedance of the annual limit.

Withdrawal limits were rounded to nearest hundred thousand in accordance with DEQ's April 6, 2015 "Rounding Memo". DEQ recommends the following withdrawal volumes based upon evaluation of the groundwater withdrawal permit application.

Period of Withdrawal	Actual Volume (gal.)	Volume in MGD
Maximum Monthly:	2,500,000	0.082
Maximum Annual:	10,000,000	0.028

Technical Evaluation:

Aquaveo, LLC performed a technical evaluation of the application for the Department based on the VAHydroGW-ES model. As an aquifer pump test was not performed, the properties from the VAHydroGW-ES model were used to simulate the potential drawdown resulting from the proposed withdrawal. The model uses a base simulation which includes all existing permits (except the applicant wells) operating at their 2017 maximum annual withdrawal limit allowed under the terms of their permit for all Ground Water Management Area (GWMA) permit holders. This base simulation is then executed for 50 years. A second 50-year simulation was then conducted using the VAHydroGW-ES model with the applicant's proposed withdrawals added to the base simulation to simulate drawdown resulting from the applicant's wells using the proposed withdrawal volumes. The objectives of this evaluation were to determine the areas of any aquifers that will experience at least one foot of water level decline due to the proposed withdrawal (the Area of Impact or AOI), to determine the potential for the proposed withdrawal to cause salt-water intrusion, and to determine if the proposed withdrawal meets the 80% drawdown criteria. A summary of the results of the evaluation are provided below and the full technical evaluation is attached to this fact sheet as Attachment 2.

Aquaveo, LLC reviewed and compared simulated 2017 water levels from the reported use to USGS measured water levels in observation wells closest to the applicant's withdrawal for the same year for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers. Comparing the VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Historic Use Water Level with the USGS Network Well 2017 Water Level provides a method for judging the accuracy of the VAHydroGW-ES model. They noted that the water levels obtained from the regional observation networks for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers varied between closely matching to eight feet higher and eight feet lower than the simulated water levels depending on the well compared. Aquaveo also noted that the observed water levels in all three aquifers exhibit yearly fluctuations in water levels of approximately 2 to 5 ft in the Upper and 2 to 10 ft in the Middle and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers. Water levels simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES do not fluctuate in the same manner because the pumping and recharge simulated in the model for any given year are averaged over the year and entered in the model as the average value for the year. Aquaveo concluded that while there are some variations between the observed and simulated water levels, the fluctuations and general patterns observed in the USGS wells are simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES model and the water levels from the two sources are in general agreement with a couple of noted variations. Differences between observed and simulated water levels will be noted and addressed during the next calibration of the VAHydroGW-ES model.

The potential for adverse changes to water quality due to increases in salinity resulting from the proposed withdrawal was evaluated using transient, density-dependent, SEAWAT simulations using the VAHydroGW-ES. The results indicated that model cells in the Upper Yorktown-Eastover and Middle Yorktown-Eastover simulated an increase in chloride concentration of 189 mg/L and 66 mg/L respectively due to the proposed withdrawal. Therefore, the VAHydroGW-ES model results do indicate a moderate potential for reduced water quality as a result of the proposed withdrawal. Chloride monitoring will be required by the permit to monitor for any trends in salinity over the permit term. As the wells are screened in the Lower Yorktown-Eastover, monitoring will be conducted in that aquifer to identify any trends in chlorides.

The results of the VAHydroGW-ES simulations predict areas of impact due to the proposed withdrawal in the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers. The Area of Impact (AOI), or the area in which the withdrawal is expected to result in a drawdown of at least 1 foot, extend a maximum distance of approximately 0.7, 0.9, and 1.2 miles from the production center in the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers respectively. As the AOI extends beyond the property line, a mitigation plan is required and will be incorporated into the permit. The modeled area of impact determines the area in which the facility must evaluate any impacts according to the process laid out in the mitigation plan.

With the inclusion of the proposed withdrawal, the model simulated water levels at 4.4, 3.4, and -38.1 ft. msl for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, respectively. The 80% drawdown criterion allows the potentiometric water level (based on the critical surface elevation calculated from the VAHydroGW-ES data) to be reduced to -74.3, -135.8, and -189.1 feet msl for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, respectively. Therefore, the water levels in the VAHydroGW-ES cell containing the applicant wells for each confined aquifer are not simulated to fall below the critical surface. Additionally, no new VAHydroGW-ES cells are simulated to have water levels below the critical surface. Therefore, this withdrawal is within the limits set by the 80% drawdown criterion.

Aquaveo, LLC concluded that the proposed withdrawals meet technical criteria for permit issuance. Maps of the AOIs are included in the attached Mitigation Plan.

Part I Operating Conditions

Authorized Withdrawals:

Owner Well Name	DEQ Well #	Aquifer	Type	Max Pump Setting (ft. bls)
Well 1	100-01439	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	Production	240
Well 2	100-01440	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	Production	240
Well 3	100-01441	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	Production	240
Well 4	100-01442	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	Production	240
Well 5	100-01443	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	Production	240
Well 6	100-01444	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	Production	240
Well 7	100-01445	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	Production	240
Well 8	100-01446	Lower Yorktown-Eastover	Production	240

Apportionment: Apportionment of withdrawals is expected to be fairly equally spread across all facility wells and the permit does not include apportionment limits

Additional Wells:

Observation Wells: No observation wells are associated with this facility.

Abandoned Wells: No abandoned wells are associated with this facility.

Out of Service Wells: No out-of-service wells are associated with this facility.

Pump Intake Settings:

Pump intakes for all wells were set at 150 feet below land surface as documented on the GW-2 forms. All well pumps are correctly positioned in accordance with 9VAC25-610-140(A)(6).

Withdrawal Reporting: Groundwater withdrawals are to be recorded monthly and reported quarterly.

Water Conservation and Management Plan:

A Water Conservation and Management Plan (WCMP) meeting the requirements of 9VAC25-610-100.B was submitted and reviewed as part of the application process. The accepted Plan is to be followed by the permittee as an operational Plan for the facility/water system.

- A detailed description of the leak detection and repair program activities and documentation to the Department that these activities have been conducted is due by the end of the first year of the

permit term.

- A result of a 12 month audit of the total amount of groundwater used in the distribution system and the amounts for drinking and cooling water, documentation of the flock cycle start and end dates, and any necessary changes to the operation affecting water use is due by the end of the second year of the permit term.
- A report on the plan's effectiveness in maintaining or reducing water use amounts needed, including revisions to those elements of the WCMP that can be improved and addition of other elements found to be effective based on operations to date shall be submitted by the end of years five [date] and ten [date] of the permit term.

Mitigation Plan: The predicted AOI resulting from the Technical Evaluation extends beyond the property boundaries in the Upper, Middle and Lower Yorktown-Eastover. Given this prediction, a Mitigation Plan to address potential claims from existing well owners within the predicted area of impact is included in the permit by reference.

Well Tags: Well tags will be transmitted with the final permit.

Part II Special Conditions

Meter Installation/Verification: The applicant has stated that meters were installed correctly on each well. This will need to be verified by staff. In cases where meters are found to be incorrectly installed or otherwise failing to capture the total water use of each well, DEQ will notify the permittee of such via an inspection report and the permittee shall correct any meter issues within 60 days.

Water Quality Monitoring: As the technical evaluation showed the potential for the withdrawal to effect water quality, specifically as it pertains to the potential to increase concentrations of chlorides in the aquifer in use, quarterly groundwater quality monitoring will be required. The permittee is required to collect sample on a quarterly basis and the samples shall be analyzed for chloride concentration. Sample results shall be submitted with the quarterly withdrawal reports.

Alternative Source Investigation: The facility is supplied by wells screened in the confined Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer. The confined aquifer system on the Eastern Shore is considered to be of higher quality than the surficial (water table) aquifer and is the potable water supply for the majority of the Eastern Shore. The regulation requires the lowest quality water available be applied to the permitted use. While the application states generally that the surficial aquifer would not be viable, site specific investigation is necessary to evaluate the surficial aquifer quality and availability. By September 30, 2022, an alternative source investigation must be completed and the results submitted to DEQ by March 31, 2023 for review and acceptance. The investigation shall provide pump test and water quality data from a test or production well screened in the surficial aquifer on the facility site as well as conclusions on the capability of the surficial aquifer to supply all or part of the water needs for the facility.

Part III General Conditions

General Conditions are applied to all Groundwater Withdrawal Permits, as stated in the Groundwater Withdrawal Regulations, 9VAC25-610-10 *et seq.*

Public Comment

Relevant Regulatory Agency Comments:

Summary of VDH Comments and Actions: This facility is not a public water supply so soliciting comments from VDH was not required.

Public Involvement during Application Process:

Local and Area wide Planning Requirements: The Accomack County Administrator indicated on March 22, 2019 that the facility's operations are consistent with all ordinances.

Public Comment/Meetings:

The public notice was published in xxxxxx on XXX. The public comment period ran from xxxxx to xxxxx

Changes in Permit Part II Due to Public Comments

Changes in Permit Part III Due to Public Comments

Staff Findings and Recommendations

Based on review of the permit application, staff provides the following findings.

- The proposed activity is consistent with the provisions of the Ground Water Management Act of 1992, and will protect other beneficial uses.
- The proposed permit addresses minimization of the amount of groundwater needed to provide the intended beneficial use.
- The effect of the impact will not cause or contribute to significant impairment of state waters.
- This permit includes a plan to mitigate adverse impacts on existing groundwater users.
- The permit requires water quality monitoring to evaluate long-term trends in chloride concentrations.

Staff recommends Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Number GW0074500 be issued as proposed.

Attachments

- 1. Technical Evaluation**
- 2. Water Conservation Plan**
- 3. Mitigation Plan**
- 4. Water Use Calculation Worksheet**
- 5. Public Comment Sheet**

Approved: _____

Director, Office of Water Supply

Date: _____

McChicken Farms LLC – Water Conservation and Management Plan – GW0074500

Introduction

McChicken Farms is a contract broiler farm that produces chicken for meat production. The facility consists of 8 chicken houses in the town of Melfa in Accomack County, Virginia. McChicken Farms fully understands the need to be a good steward of the region's limited groundwater resources. As a result, key operational and design considerations were made to minimize the use and loss of water in McChicken Farms Water Supply System.

This Water Conservation and Management Plan is designed to optimize McChicken Farms' groundwater supply and consists of the following elements:

- Practicable Water-Saving Equipment and Processes
- Water Loss Reduction Program
- Water Use Education Program
- Evaluation of Practicable Water Reuse Options
- Mandatory Water Use Reductions during Shortages.

Practicable Water-Saving Equipment and Processes

McChicken Farms requirements for water-saving equipment and processes are implemented primarily through the construction and maintenance of the most water efficient poultry houses. Drinker systems for all facilities are designed to provide clean, cool water with adequate flow rate fundamental to food poultry production. The use of closed nipple drinker systems ensures minimal waste of water and precludes the requirement for daily cleaning, which also conserves overall water usage. Flow rates are regularly checked and water consumption is monitored daily with any substantial change in water usage investigated. Evaporative Cooling Pads are utilized only at temperatures above 82° F and recirculate water until evaporated in order to conserve water while still meeting their designed purpose of providing temperature relief in conditions too warm for efficient food poultry production. Management techniques that do not involve water consumption are also utilized in hot conditions such as walking the birds and feed removal.

McChicken Farms has implemented comprehensive water conservation measures for appliances and plumbing fixtures in new construction and renovations in accordance with the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC), which includes the Virginia Plumbing Code. McChicken Farms has also fully adopted the optional provisions in USBC Volume II, Building Maintenance Code, applicable to rehabilitation of existing buildings. These codes require the use of low-flow fixtures (e.g., shower heads, toilets, and faucets) and other water-saving measures for homes and commercial buildings. The Farm generally maintains 50 to 65 pounds per square inch in the distribution system for all 8 poultry houses. This pressure is adequate for raising the broiler chickens but reduces the flows from faucets and other plumbing fixtures.

The facility has a vested financial interest in saving water. This is because water use at this facility requires electricity to run the well pump; storage tank float switch; booster pumps; Etc. Furthermore, water use contributes to both booster and well pump wear and eventual failure. Because electricity and failing appurtenances cost the facility money, staff is consistently mindful and proactive when it comes to unintentional water use at the facility. Additionally, water use issues are indicative of flock problems and are resolved quickly to ensure maximum flock survival. Management at McChicken Farms will regularly review water consumption electronically and will implement changes when opportunities are identified.

Water Loss Reduction Program

Water Loss Audit

McChicken Farms will initiate a water audit within the first two years of the permit term. The audit will include an evaluation of the well pumpage and bird consumption as well as evaporative cooling pad usage to determine unaccounted for water. Should this audit demonstrate the need for Chicken House specific leak detection program, it will be initiated accordingly.

Leak Detection and Repair from Distribution System

Water piping on the Farm is relatively new (installed within the last 2 years), is generally shallow (typically three feet of cover) and in many cases on the surface. As a result, water distribution system leaks of any significance typically come to the surface immediately and are easily located for prompt repair. The Farm's inspection program includes routine operations and special inspections. Routine inspections consist of observation of the well piping and equipment in the course of daily operations.

Leak Detection and Repair for Individual Chicken Houses

Significant leaks in individual chicken houses lead to substantial problems in maintaining flock survival rates. For this reason, leaks are quickly found and repaired. Farm staff works closely with Management to identify and resolve leaks when higher than normal water consumption is identified on the house controller.

Water Use Education Program

Employee Training

All employees on the McChicken Farms are encouraged to conserve water and identify potential leaks when hired, during training, and the use of regular conversational reminders. Specifically, employees are instructed in the ways in which they could use less water (or no water) for a given task, for example:

- 1) Use fixed volume containers for cleaning.
- 2) Never leaving water running unattended.
- 3) Use of waterless hand sanitizer instead of washing hands with water, when practical.

Evaluation of Practicable Water Reuse Options

McChicken Farms has limited opportunities to explore water reuse projects for McChicken Farms because there is no wastewater generated as a result of the withdrawal. The likelihood of a reuse project occurring is remote at this time, given the current water saving equipment in place and inability to practicably treat collected storm water to potable standards for food poultry production. Should a water use arise that could utilize non-potable water, then a Water Re-use Evaluation will be conducted, at that time.

Mandatory Water Use Reductions during Shortages

The facility will comply with all applicable sections of the Accomack County Drought Response and Contingency Plan as identified in the Accomack County Water Supply Plan. This includes voluntary water use restrictions in drought watch and mandatory water use restrictions in a drought emergency. Personnel and visitors will be instructed to conserve water and advised of any water use restrictions that may be in place and that the waste of water generally will not be permitted for the duration of a water shortage emergency.

MITIGATION PLAN

DEQ GROUNDWATER WITHDRAWAL PERMIT NO: GW0074500

OWNER NAME: McChicken Farms, LLC

FACILITY NAME: McChicken Farms

LOCATION: 30151 Drummondtown Road Melfa, VA 23410

INTRODUCTION

On December 17, 2017, McChicken Farms, LLC submitted a Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Application to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to withdraw groundwater. Groundwater withdrawals associated with this permit will be utilized to provide drinking water for bird consumption, also water for an evaporative cooling pad system and general maintenance and cleaning purposes.

The purpose of this Mitigation Plan is to provide existing groundwater users a method to resolve claims that may arise due to the impact of the withdrawal from McChicken Farms well field. Predicted drawdown of water levels due to the withdrawal from the Lower Yorktown Eastover aquifer are shown in the attached maps.

Modeled impacts, as shown on the attached maps, extend beyond the boundary of the McChicken Farm facility. Due to these findings, McChicken Farms, LLC recognizes that there will be a rebuttable presumption that water level declines that cause adverse impacts to existing groundwater users within the area of impact are due to this withdrawal. Claims may be made by groundwater users outside this area; however, there is a rebuttable presumption that McChicken Farms, LLC/McChicken Farms has not caused the adverse impact. McChicken Farms, LLC proposes this plan to mitigate impacts to existing users and excludes impacts to wells constructed after the effective date of this permit.

CLAIMANT REQUIREMENTS

To initiate a claim, the claimant must provide written notification of the claim to the following address:

Contact Name	<u>B.E. Turlington</u>
Title	<u>Owner</u>
Permittee Name	<u>McChicken Farms, LLC</u>
Address	<u>30054 Drummondtown Road</u>
City, State Zip Code	<u>Melfa, Virginia 23410</u>

The claim must include the following information: (a) a deed or other available evidence that the claimant is the owner of the well and the well was constructed and operated prior to the effective date of the permit; (b) all available information related to well construction, water levels, historic yield, water quality, and the exact location of the well sufficient to allow McChicken Farms, LLC to locate the well on the claimant's property; (c) the reasons the claimant believes that the McChicken Farms withdrawal has caused an adverse impact on the claimants wells.

CLAIM RESOLUTION

McChicken Farms, LLC will review any claim within **five (5) business days**. If McChicken Farms, LLC determines that no rebuttal will be made and accepts the claim as valid, McChicken Farms, LLC will so notify the claimant and will implement mitigation within **thirty (30) business days**. If the claim is not accepted as valid, McChicken Farms, LLC will notify the claimant that (a) the claim is denied **or** (b) that additional documentation from the claimant is required in order to evaluate the claim. Within **fifteen (15) business days** of receiving additional documentation from the claimant, McChicken Farms, LLC will notify the claimant (a) that McChicken Farms, LLC agrees to mitigate adverse impacts or (b) the claim is denied. If the claim is denied, the claimant will be notified that the claimant may request the claim be evaluated by a three (3) member committee. This committee will consist of one (1) representative selected by McChicken Farms, LLC one (1) representative selected by the claimant, and one (1) representative mutually agreed upon by the claimant and McChicken Farms, LLC.

Any claimant requesting that a claim be evaluated by the committee should provide the name and address of their representative to McChicken Farms, LLC. Within **five (5) business days** of receipt of such notification, McChicken Farms, LLC will notify the claimant and claimant's representative of the identity of McChicken Farms, LLC representative and instruct the representatives to select a third representative within **ten (10) business days**. Representatives should be a professional engineer or hydrogeologist with experience in the field of groundwater hydrology. McChicken Farms, LLC agrees to reimburse the members of the committee for reasonable time spent, at a rate prevailing in the area for experts in the above listed fields, and for direct costs incurred in administering the plan. The claimant may, at his or her option, choose to provide the reimbursement for the member of the committee selected by the claimant and up to half of the reimbursement for the mutual representative.

Within **ten (10) business days** of selection of the third representative, the committee will establish a **reasonable deadline** for submission of all documentation it needs to evaluate the claim. Both the claimant and McChicken Farms, LLC will abide by this deadline.

Within **fifteen (15) business days** of receipt of documentation, the committee will evaluate the claim and reach a decision by majority vote. The committee will notify the claimant regarding its decision to (a) deny or (b) approve the claim. If the claim is approved, McChicken Farms, LLC will mitigate the adverse impacts within **thirty (30) business days** of making the decision or as soon as practical. If the claim is denied by the committee, McChicken Farms, LLC may seek reimbursement from the claimant for the claimant's committee representative and one half of the 3rd representative on the committee.

If a claimant within the indicated area of impact indicates that they are out of water, McChicken Farms, LLC will accept the responsibility of providing water for human consumptive needs within **seventy-two (72) hours** and to cover the claim review period. McChicken Farms, LLC reserves the right to recover the cost of such emergency supply if the claim is denied by McChicken Farms, LLC or found to be fraudulent or frivolous. If McChicken Farms, LLC denies a claim and the claimant elects to proceed with the three (3) member committee, McChicken Farms, LLC will continue the emergency water supply at the claimants request during the committee's deliberations, but reserves the right to recover the total costs of emergency water supply in the case that the committee upholds the denial of the claim. Similarly, McChicken Farms, LLC reserves the right to recover costs associated with the claim process if a claim is found to be fraudulent or frivolous.

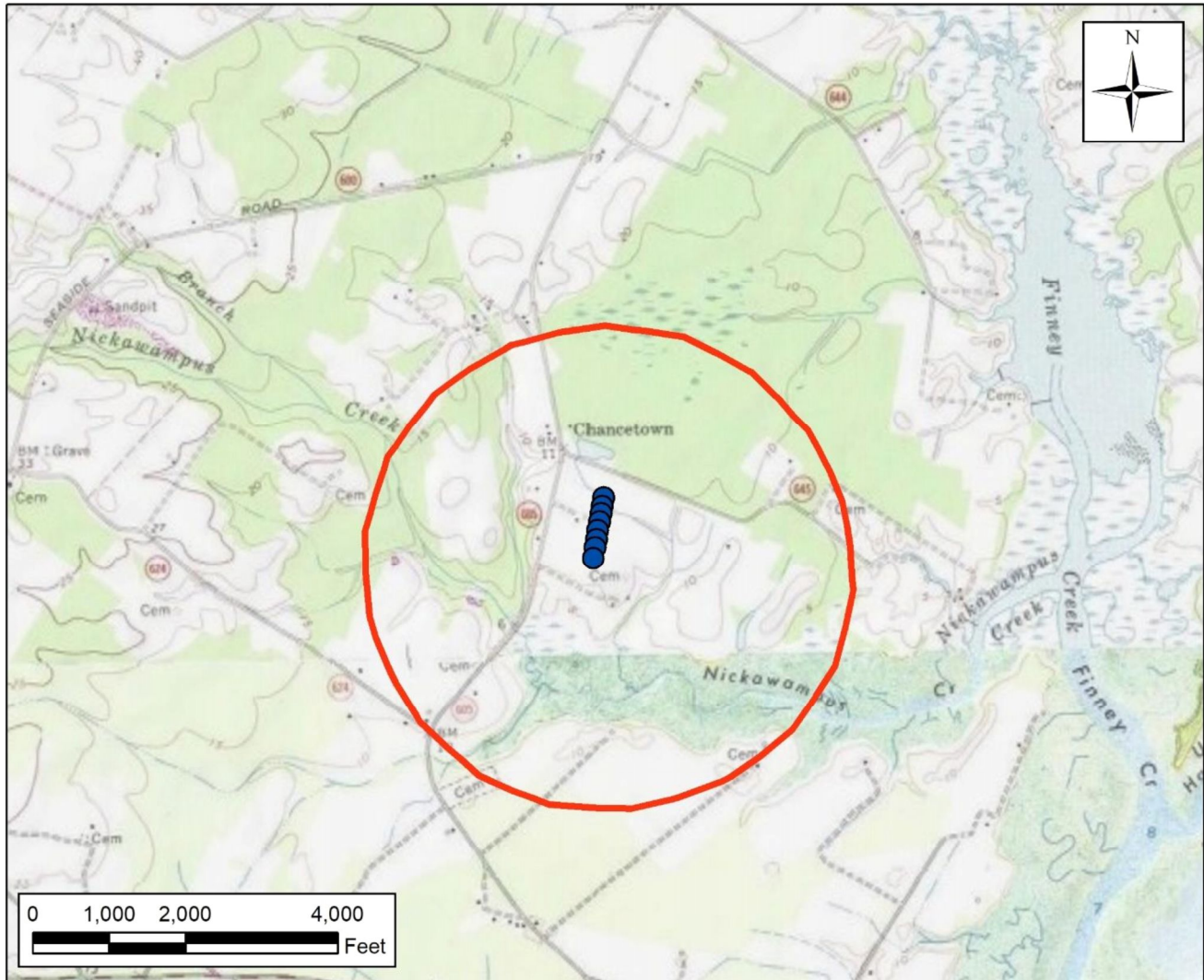
If it is determined by the committee or shown to the committee's satisfaction that a well operating under a mitigation plan similar to McChicken Farms, LLC/McChicken Farms Plan other than those owned and operated by McChicken Farms, LLC has contributed to the claimed adverse impact, McChicken Farms, LLC share of the costs associated with mitigation will be allocated in proportion to its share of the impact. Such a determination shall be made by the committee after notification of the third party well owner, giving the third party well owner opportunity to participate in the proceedings of the committee.

PLAN ADMINISTRATION

Nothing in the Plan shall be construed to prevent the Department of Environmental Quality Staff from providing information needed for resolution of claims by the committee.

McChicken Farms

Area of Impact - Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer



● McChicken Farms Wells

○ Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer Area of Impact

Simulated drawdown at or exceeding one foot in the Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer resulting from a 10,000,000 gallons per year (27,397 average gpd), 50 year withdrawal from the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers using the VAHydroGW-ES.

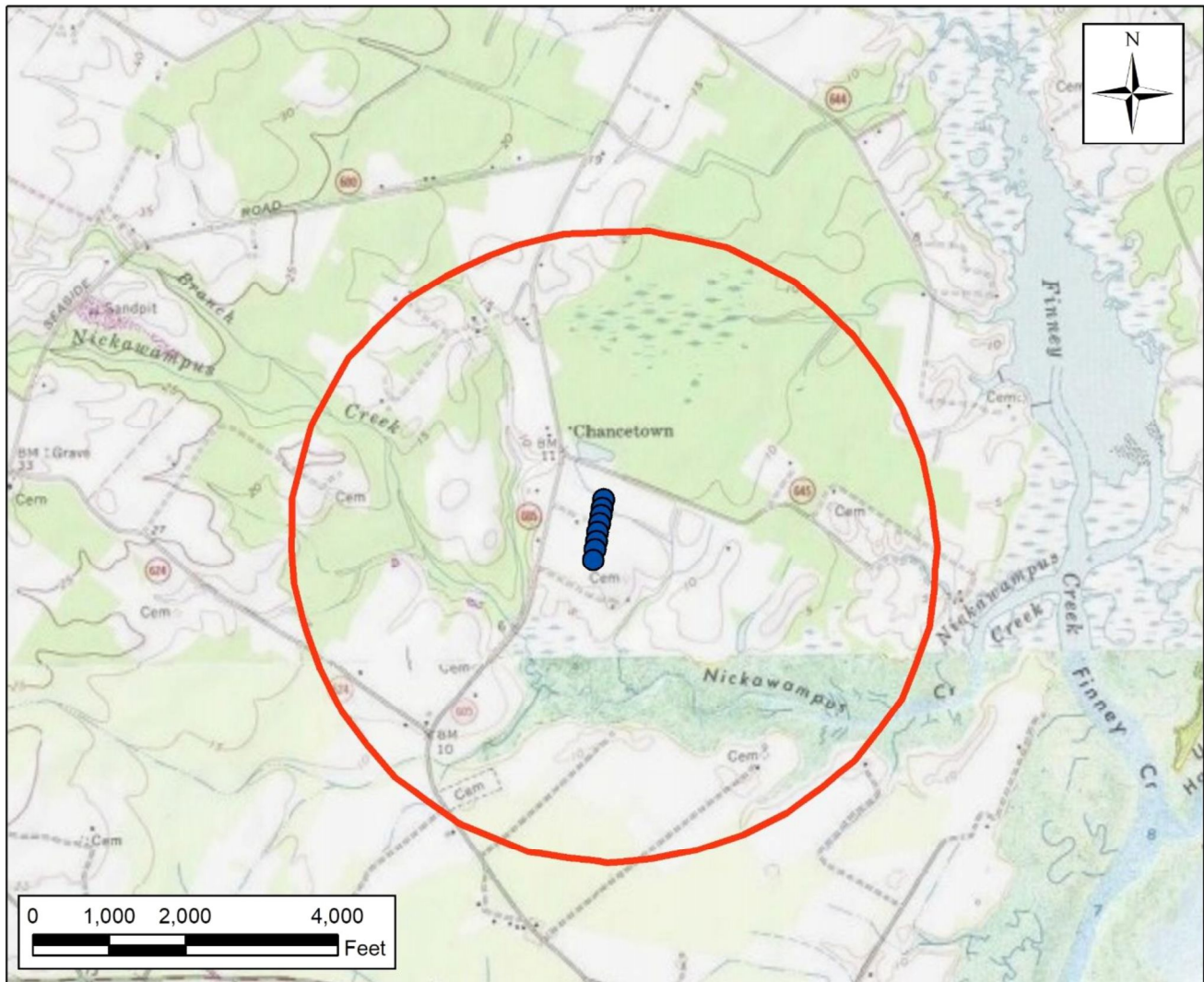
Maximum radius of one foot drawdown (Area of Impact) extends approximately 0.7 miles from the pumping center.

Technical evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
December 14, 2018



McChicken Farms

Area of Impact - Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer



● McChicken Farms Wells

○ Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer Area of Impact

Simulated drawdown at or exceeding one foot in the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer resulting from a 10,000,000 gallons per year (27,397 average gpd), 50 year withdrawal from the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers using the VAHydroGW-ES.

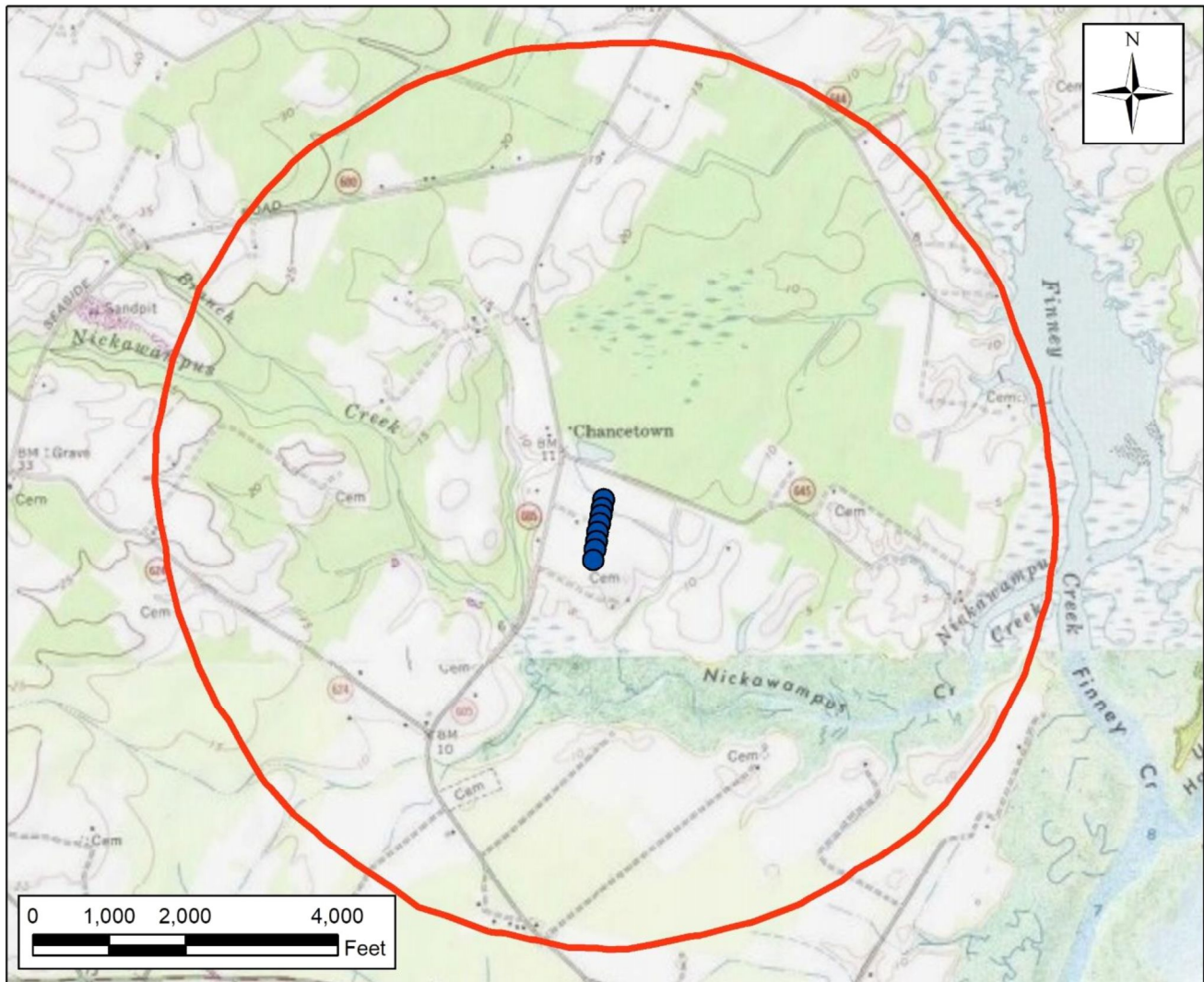
Maximum radius of one foot drawdown (Area of Impact) extends approximately 0.9 miles from the pumping center.

Technical evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
December 14, 2018



McChicken Farms

Area of Impact - Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer



● McChicken Farms Wells

○ Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer Area of Impact

Simulated drawdown at or exceeding one foot in the Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer resulting from a 10,000,000 gallons per year (27,397 average gpd), 50 year withdrawal from the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers using the VAHydroGW-ES.

Maximum radius of one foot drawdown (Area of Impact) extends approximately 1.2 miles from the pumping center.

Technical evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
December 14, 2018



McChicken Farms, LLC – GW0074500

Facility Information

8 poultry houses, 66 foot width

Consumption

See data metered from farm of comparable size.

Assuming that water consumption remains generally constant from flock to flock.

$$\text{Annual Flock Consumption} = 128,317 \frac{\text{gal}}{\text{house}} \times 8 \text{ houses} \times 5 \frac{\text{flock}}{\text{yr}} = 5,132,680 \frac{\text{gal}}{\text{yr}}$$

$$\text{Max Monthly Flock Consumption} = \sum_{\text{Day 50}}^{\text{Day 20}} \text{Daily Water Consumption} = 864,000 \frac{\text{gal}}{\text{mo}}$$

Cooling

See Figure 12 of University of Georgia, Poultry Housing Tips (Evaporative Cooling Pad System Water Usage), Volume 29, Number 1, 2017, for evaporative cooling pad water usage per tunnel fan capacity.

$$\text{Annual Cooling (Easton, MD)} \approx \frac{160,000 \frac{\text{gal}}{\text{yr}}}{100,000 \text{ cfm}} \approx \frac{1.6 \frac{\text{gal}}{\text{yr}}}{1 \text{ cfm}}$$

See Page 6 of Cobb-Vantress, Broiler Management Guide, November 15, 2013, for tunnel fan capacity (operating at an airspeed of 600 fpm) versus house width.

$$\text{Tunnel Fan Capacity} = \left[376,200 \frac{\text{cfm}}{\text{hse}} \times 8 \text{ hse} \right] = 3,009,600 \text{ cfm}$$

$$Annual\ Cooling = 3,009,600\ cfm \times \frac{1.6\ \frac{gal}{yr}}{1\ cfm} = 4,815,360\ \frac{gal}{yr}$$

Requested Withdrawal Amounts

$$Annual\ Amount = 5,132,680\ \frac{gal}{yr} + 4,815,360\ \frac{gal}{yr} = 9,948,040\ \frac{gal}{yr} \approx 10,000,000\ \frac{gal}{yr}$$

$$Monthly\ Amount = 864,000\ \frac{gal}{mo} + \left[\frac{4,815,360\ \frac{gal}{yr}}{3} \right] = 2,469,120\ \frac{gal}{mo} \approx 2,500,000\ \frac{gal}{mo}$$

**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

TECHNICAL EVALUATION FOR PROPOSED GROUNDWATER WITHDRAWAL

Date: February 7, 2019

Application /Permit Number: GW0074500

Owner / Applicant Name: McChicken Farms LLC

Facility / System Name: McChicken Farms

Facility Type: Agriculture – Poultry Farm

Facility / System Location: Accomack County

The Commonwealth of Virginia’s Groundwater Withdrawal Regulations (9VAC25-610-110(D)) state that, for a permit to be issued for a new withdrawal, to expand an existing withdrawal, or reapply for a current withdrawal, a technical evaluation shall be conducted. This report documents the results of the technical evaluation conducted to meet the requirements for the issuance of a permit to withdrawal groundwater within a Groundwater Management Area as defined in (9VAC25-600-10 et seq.).

This evaluation determines the:

- (1) The Area of Impact (AOI): The AOI for an aquifer is the areal extent of each aquifer where one foot or more of drawdown is predicted to occur as a result of the proposed withdrawal.
- (2) Water Quality: The potential for the proposed withdrawal to cause salt water intrusion into any portions of any aquifers or the movement of waters of lower quality to areas where such movement would result in adverse impacts on existing groundwater users or the groundwater resource as per (9VAC25-610-110(D)(2), and
- (3) The Eighty Percent Drawdown (80% Drawdown): The proposed withdrawal in combination with all existing lawful withdrawals will not lower water levels, in any confined aquifer that the withdrawal impacts, below a point that represents 80% of the distance between the land surface and the top of the aquifer at the points where the one-foot drawdown contour is predicted for the proposed withdrawal as per 9VAC25-610-110(D)(3)(h).

Summary of Requested Withdrawal:

General:

In response to the Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ) Compliance Assistance Framework initiative, a cohort of poultry farms in Accomack County were identified as potentially requiring a groundwater withdrawal permit (GWWP). The farms primarily grow broilers which are processed by several poultry integrators located in the area. These farms use groundwater to provide drinking water to the birds as well as to supply water to either misting systems or evaporative cooling pads which cool the birds. Cooling is primarily required in summer. Most wells associated with poultry farms in Accomack County are screened in either the upper, middle, or lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers. The use of the Columbia (water-table) aquifer is being investigated by the industry and this aquifer may be used in the future to augment withdrawals from confined aquifers where possible.

Water use for poultry farms varies seasonally as well as in response to the poultry life cycle. Generally during winter, fall, and spring, facility withdrawals rise and fall in a fairly predictable pattern every 50-60 days, with usage primarily resulting from water consumption. This pattern starts with low water

consumption volumes for chick development and maxes out in the last 20-30 days as breeders seek to maximize adult weight gains. Typically, farms raise around five flocks per year with this cycle repeating each time. During the summer, withdrawal volumes increase due to additional water usage for flock cooling purposes. A few farms have additional sanitary and other agricultural uses (crops/other livestock).

Facility Specific:

McChicken Farms has 8 poultry houses and 8 production wells. The houses are: 66 x 600 feet. Proposed withdrawal limits were calculated based on the total of both consumption (drinking water) and cooling. Water use for consumption was calculated based on meter/computer data from a comparable farm. Water use for cooling was calculated based on estimates based on house size and cooling fan capacity.

The proposed withdrawal limits and well construction details are as follows:

Proposed Withdrawal Limits:

Proposed Withdrawal Limits	
Annual Value	10,000,000 gallons (27,397 average gpd)
Monthly Value	2,500,000 gallons (80,645 average gpd)

Due to the well and plumbing configuration the withdrawal will be apportioned fairly equally between the system wells.

Production Well(s):

Identification	Location	Construction	Pump Intake	Source Aquifer
Owner Well Name: Well #1 DEQ Well Number: 100-01439 MPID:373750075415601	Lat: 37 37' 51.068" Lon: 75° 41' 57.788" Datum: NAD 83 Elevation: 9.93 ft	Completion Date: December 2018 Screens (ft-bls): 265-280 Total Depth (ft-bls): 280	Pending	Lower Yorktown-Eastover
Owner Well Name: Well #2 DEQ Well Number: 100-01440 MPID: 373749075415602	Lat: 37° 37' 50.685" Lon: 75° 41' 56.924" Datum: NAD 83 Elevation: 9.76 ft	Completion Date: December 2018 Screens (ft-bls): 265-280 Total Depth (ft-bls): 280	Pending	Lower Yorktown-Eastover
Owner Well Name: Well #3 DEQ Well Number: 100-01441 MPID: 373748075415603	Lat: 37° 37' 48.464" Lon: 75° 41' 56.616" Datum: NAD83 Elevation: 9.90 ft	Completion Date: December 2018 Screens (ft-bls): 265-280 Total Depth (ft-bls): 280	Pending	Lower Yorktown-Eastover

Owner Well Name: Well #4 DEQ Well Number: 100-01442 MPID: 373747075415704	Lat: 37° 37' 48.130* Lon: 75° 41' 56.064"* Datum: NAD 83 Elevation: 9.97 ft	Completion Date: December 2018 Screens (ft-bls): 265-280* Total Depth (ft-bls): 280*	Pending	Lower Yorktown-Eastover
Owner Well Name: Well #5 DEQ Well Number: 100-01443 MPID: 373746075415705	Lat: 37° 37' 46.177" Lon: 75° 41' 57.543" Datum: NAD 83 Elevation: 9.43	Completion Date: December 2018 Screens (ft-bls): 265-280 Total Depth (ft-bls): 280	Pending	Lower Yorktown-Eastover
Owner Well Name: Well #6 DEQ Well Number: 100-01444 MPID: 373745075415706	Lat: 37° 37' 46.202" Lon: 75° 41' 59.080" Datum: NAD 83 Elevation: 9.80 ft	Completion Date: December 2018 Screens (ft-bls): 265-280 Total Depth (ft-bls): 280	Pending	Lower Yorktown-Eastover
Owner Well Name: Well #7 DEQ Well Number: 100-01445 MPID: 373744075415807	Lat: 37° 37' 43.905" Lon: 75° 41' 58.007" Datum: NAD 83 Elevation: 9.98 ft	Completion Date: December 2018 Screens (ft-bls): 265-280 Total Depth (ft-bls): 280	Pending	Lower Yorktown-Eastover
Owner Well Name: Well #8 DEQ Well Number: 100-01446 MPID: 373743075415808	Lat: 37° 37' 43.866" Lon: 75° 41' 59.355" Datum: NAD 83 Elevation: 10.2 ft	Completion Date: November 2018 Screens (ft-bls): 265-280 Total Depth (ft-bls): 280	Pending	Lower Yorktown-Eastover

Geologic Setting:

The McChicken Farms wells (applicant wells) are located in southern Accomack County. The production wells are screened in the Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer. The upper portion of the Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (described in the 2006 Virginia Coastal Plain Hydrologic Framework¹ (VCPHF) as a combination of the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers) is composed primarily of estuarine to marine quartz sands of the Yorktown Formation of Pliocene age. The nearest USGS geologic

¹ McFarland, E.R., and Bruce, T.S., 2006, The Virginia Coastal Plain Hydrogeologic Framework: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 1731, 118 p., 25 pls.

cross section found in USGS Professional Paper 1731 is cross-section GS-GS' (see attached figure at the end of the report).

Virginia Eastern Shore Model data:

The following table lists the location of the applicant production wells within the Virginia Eastern Shore Model² (VAHydroGW-ES).

VAHydroGW-ES Model Grid				
Well	Well Number	MPID	Row	Column
Well #1	100-01439	373750075415601	163	57
Well #2	100-01440	373749075415602	163	57
Well #3	100-01441	373748075415603	163	57
Well #4	100-01442	373747075415704	163	58
Well #5	100-01443	373746075415705	163	58
Well #6	100-01444	373745075415706	163	58
Well #7	100-01445	373744075415807	163	58
Well #8	100-01446	373743075415808	164	58

Hydrologic Framework:

Data from the VCPHF is reported in this technical report to illustrate the hydrogeologic characteristics of the aquifers in the Virginia Eastern Shore near the applicant wells and identify major discrepancies between regional hydrogeology and site logs interpreted by the DEQ staff geologist.

The following average aquifer elevations were estimated from the VAHydroGW-ES at the model cell(s) containing the applicant production wells.

VAHydroGW-ES Average Hydrologic Unit Information		
Aquifer	Elevation (feet msl)	Depth (feet bls)
Surface	9	0
Columbia aquifer (bottom)	-30	39
Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (top)	-95	104
Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (bottom)	-140	149
Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (top)	-172	181
Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (bottom)	-213	222
Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (top)	-238	247
Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer (bottom)	-326	335

Groundwater Characterization Program Recommendations:

DEQ staff geologist has reviewed available information and made the following determinations regarding the location of the aquifer tops for the following wells. Information reviewed in this process was a geophysical log, driller's logs, induction logs, GW-2 form and The Virginia Coastal Plain Hydrogeologic Framework (USGS Professional Paper 1731) etc.].

² Sanford, W.E., Pope, J.P., and Nelms, D.L., 2009, Simulation of groundwater-level and salinity changes in the Eastern Shore, Virginia: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2009-5066, 125 p.

Unit	Well #1 (ft-bls)	Well #8 (ft- bls)
Bottom of the Columbia	30	40
Top of the Upper Yorktown-Eastover	110	80
Bottom of the Upper Yorktown-Eastover	140	138
Top of the Middle Yorktown-Eastover	155	155
Bottom of the Middle Yorktown-Eastover	210	210
Top of the Lower Yorktown-Eastover	240	240
Bottom of the Lower Yorktown-Eastover	Not-Encountered/Estimate 300	

Comparison of the Hydrogeologic Framework and Groundwater Characterization Program Recommendations:

The Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer top elevation of -231 ft-msl/240 ft-bls provided by the DEQ staff geologist is in general agreement with those obtained from the VESM framework of -238 ft-msl/247 ft-bls. The difference in aquifer elevations likely arises from local variations not captured in the regional model. Local variation not captured on the regional scale of the VAHydroGW-ES are expected to occur. The VAHydroGW-ES is updated on a regular basis to reflect the most up-to-date surface elevations that are available.

Water Level Comparison:

Below water levels retrieved from the USGS regional observation network wells are compared to the simulated water levels reported in the *Virginia Eastern Shore 2017-2018 Annual Simulation of Potentiometric Groundwater Surface Elevations of Reported and Total Permitted Use* report (the 2017-2018 report) and simulation files.³ This comparison is made in order to evaluate the performance of the regional model in the vicinity of the applicant wells and assess historical groundwater trends.

The 2017-2018 report provides two sets of simulated potentiometric water surface elevations. The VAHydroGW-ES model is divided into three parts. The first portion of the model simulates water levels within the Eastern Shore aquifers from 1900 through 2017 based upon historically reported pumping amounts (the “*Historic Use Simulation*”). This portion of the model has been calibrated to match water levels observed in USGS regional observation network wells situated throughout the peninsula. The water levels reported in the 2017-2018 report are based upon two separate simulations, each simulation running from 2018 through 2067. The simulated pumping amount in these two simulations are based upon, 1) the average 2013-2017 reported withdrawal amount of wells in the VAHydroGW-ES model (the “*Reported Use Simulation*”) and, 2) the current (2018) maximum withdrawal amount allowed under their current permit for wells in the VAHydroGW-ES model (the “*Total Permitted Simulation*”). Both these simulations are an extension of the *Historic Use Simulation* and the water levels reported in the 2017-2018 report are the final water levels simulated at the end of the simulations (2067).

The “VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Reported Use Water Level,” reported in the tables below, is the simulated water level – 50 years from present – if all permitted pumping continued at the average 2013-2017 reported withdrawal amount for the next 50 years. And the “VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Total Permitted Water Level,” reported in the tables below, is the simulated water level – 50 years from present – if all Eastern Shore permitted wells were to pump at the maximum permitted amount allowed under their current permit for the next 50 years. Finally, the “VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Historic Use Water Level,” reported in the tables below, is the water level simulated for the year 2017 in the *Historic Use Simulation*.

³ See *Virginia Eastern Shore 2017-2018 Annual Simulation of Potentiometric Groundwater Surface Elevations of Reported and Total Permitted Use* report and simulation files on file with the VA DEQ.

The nearest USGS regional observation network wells to the applicant wells, completed in the Upper, Middle, or Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, are listed in the following tables and shown in Figure 1. For the USGS regional observation network wells, average 2017 reported water levels are shown in the following tables. Simulated water levels for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, for the VAHydroGW-ES cells containing the USGS regional observation network wells are also shown in the following tables.

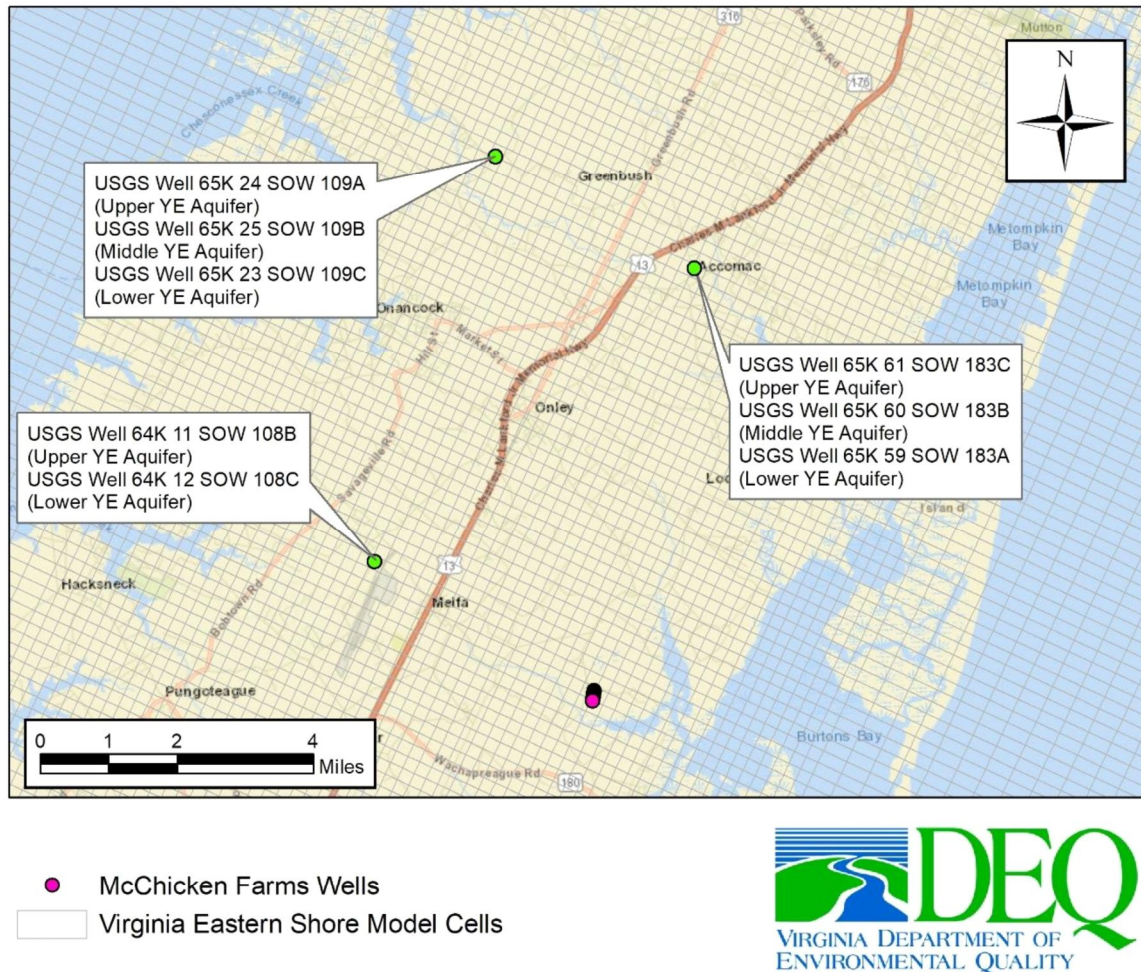


Figure 1. Nearest USGS regional observation network wells.

Comparing the VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Historic Use Water Level with the USGS Network Well 2017 Water Level provides a method for judging the accuracy of the VAHydroGW-ES. Figures 2 through 9 show graphs of the recorded water levels from the USGS observation wells listed in the following tables. These figures also show the simulated VAHydroGW-ES *Historic Use Simulation* water levels for the model cell containing each USGS well. Observing the simulated and observed water elevations together provide a second method for assessing the accuracy of the VAHydroGW-ES in the vicinity of the applicant wells.

The Upper Yorktown-Eastover VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Reported Use Water Level is essentially the same value as the USGS Network Well 2017 Water Level observed in Well 65K 24 SOW 109A. The 2017 VAHydroGW-ES water level is 4 feet lower than the level observed in Well 64K 11 SOW 108B and 7 feet lower than the level observed in 65K 61 SOW 183C. The water levels observed over the past approximately 40 years in each Upper Yorktown-Eastover USGS well are shown in Figures 2 through 4. The wells exhibit yearly fluctuations in water levels of approximately 2 to 5 feet. Water levels simulated by

the VAHydroGW-ES do not fluctuate in the same manner because the pumping and recharge simulated in the model for any given year are averaged over the year and entered in the model as the average value for the year. Water levels for the USGS Upper Yorktown-Eastover wells are in general agreement with the water levels simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES – especially for Well 65K 24 SOW 109A. While still reasonably accurate, water levels are approximately 3 feet higher for Well 64K 11 SOW 108B and approximately 5 feet higher for Well 65K 61 SOW 183C, over the three to four decades, when compared to those simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES.

The Middle Yorktown-Eastover VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Reported Use Water Levels are 5 feet higher to 8 feet lower than the USGS Network Well 2017 Water Levels observed in Well 65K 25 SOW 109B and Well 65K 60 SOW 183B. The water levels observed over the past 30 to 40 years in the Middle Yorktown-Eastover USGS wells are shown in Figures 5 and 6. Each well exhibits yearly fluctuations in water levels of approximately 2 to 10 feet. Water levels for the USGS Middle Yorktown-Eastover wells are in general agreement with the water levels simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES. Water levels for Well 65K 25 SOW 109B are higher by approximately 5 feet than those simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES over the past 40 years. The fluctuations and general patterns observed in Well 65K 60 SOW 183B are generally simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES. The large spike in the simulated water level at the end of 2012 (observed in Well 65K 60 SOW 183B) is due to a significant reduction in reported pumping for the year 2012 by a large, nearby withdrawal. The absence of a corresponding jump in water levels in the USGS observation wells indicates that the reported pumping amounts for the year 2012 may not have matched the actual pumping in the vicinity of the well.

The Lower Yorktown-Eastover VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Reported Use Water Level is approximately 3 feet lower than the USGS Network Well 2017 Water Level observed in Well 65K 59 SOW 183A; the VAHydroGW-ES 2017 value for USGS Well 65K 23 SOW 109C is approximately 2 feet higher; and the 2017 VAHydroGW-ES water level is approximately 8 feet higher than the level observed in Well 64K 12 SOW 108C. The water levels observed over the past 30 to 40 years in the Lower Yorktown-Eastover USGS wells are shown in Figures 7 through 9. Each well exhibits yearly fluctuations in water levels of approximately 2 to 10 feet. Water levels for the USGS Lower Yorktown-Eastover wells are in general agreement with the water levels simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES. The fluctuations and general patterns observed in Well 65K 23 SOW 109C and Well 65K 59 SOW 183A are generally simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES. Water levels simulated by the VAHydroGW-ES are also in general agreement with those observed in Well 64K 21 SOW 108C – though the observed water levels do decline at a larger rate than those simulated. The same spike outlined in the preceding paragraph is also visible in Well 65K 23 SOW 109C and Well 65K 59 SOW 183A.

Differences between observed and simulated water levels will be noted and addressed during the next calibration of the VAHydroGW-ES.

Upper Yorktown-Eastover Measurements	65K 24 SOW 109A	65K 61 SOW 183C	64K 11 SOW 108B
Distance from applicant wells (miles)	5.5	4.6	2.3
VAHydroGW-ES Row	128	130	161
VAHydroGW-ES Column	33	51	38
VAHydroGW-ES Land Surface Elevation (ft-msl)	13	39	44
USGS Well Land Surface Elevation (ft-msl)	12	35	47
USGS Network Well 2017 Water Level (ft-msl)	5.8	15.4	33.5
VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Reported Use Water Level (ft-msl)	5.7	8.3	29.4
VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Reported Use Water Level (ft-msl)	5.6	8	29.3
VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Total Permitted Water Level (ft-msl)	4.3	4.8	28.3

Middle Yorktown-Eastover Measurements	65K 25 SOW 109B	65K 60 SOW 183B
Distance from applicant wells (miles)	5.5	4.6
VAHydroGW-ES Row	128	130
VAHydroGW-ES Column	33	51
VAHydroGW-ES Land Surface Elevation (ft-msl)	13	39
Land Surface Elevation (ft-msl)	12	35
USGS Network Well 2017 Water Level (ft-msl)	0.2	10.4
VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Reported Use Water Level (ft-msl)	5.3	2.9
VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Reported Use Water Level (ft-msl)	5.2	2.1
VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Total Permitted Water Level (ft-msl)	3.9	-1.7

Lower Yorktown-Eastover Measurements	65K 23 SOW 109C	65K 59 SOW 183A	64K 12 SOW 108C
Distance from applicant wells (miles)	5.5	4.6	2.3
VAHydroGW-ES Row	128	130	161
VAHydroGW-ES Column	33	51	38
VAHydroGW-ES Land Surface Elevation (ft-msl)	13	39	44
Land Surface Elevation (ft-msl)	13	35	47
USGS Network Well 2017 Water Level (ft-msl)	-0.3	-17	12.9
VAHydroGW-ES 2017 Reported Use Water Level (ft-msl)	1.8	-20.4	20.8
VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Reported Use Water Level (ft-msl)	1.5	-20.7	20.6
VAHydroGW-ES 2067 Total Permitted Water Level (ft-msl)	0.1	-20.1	18.9

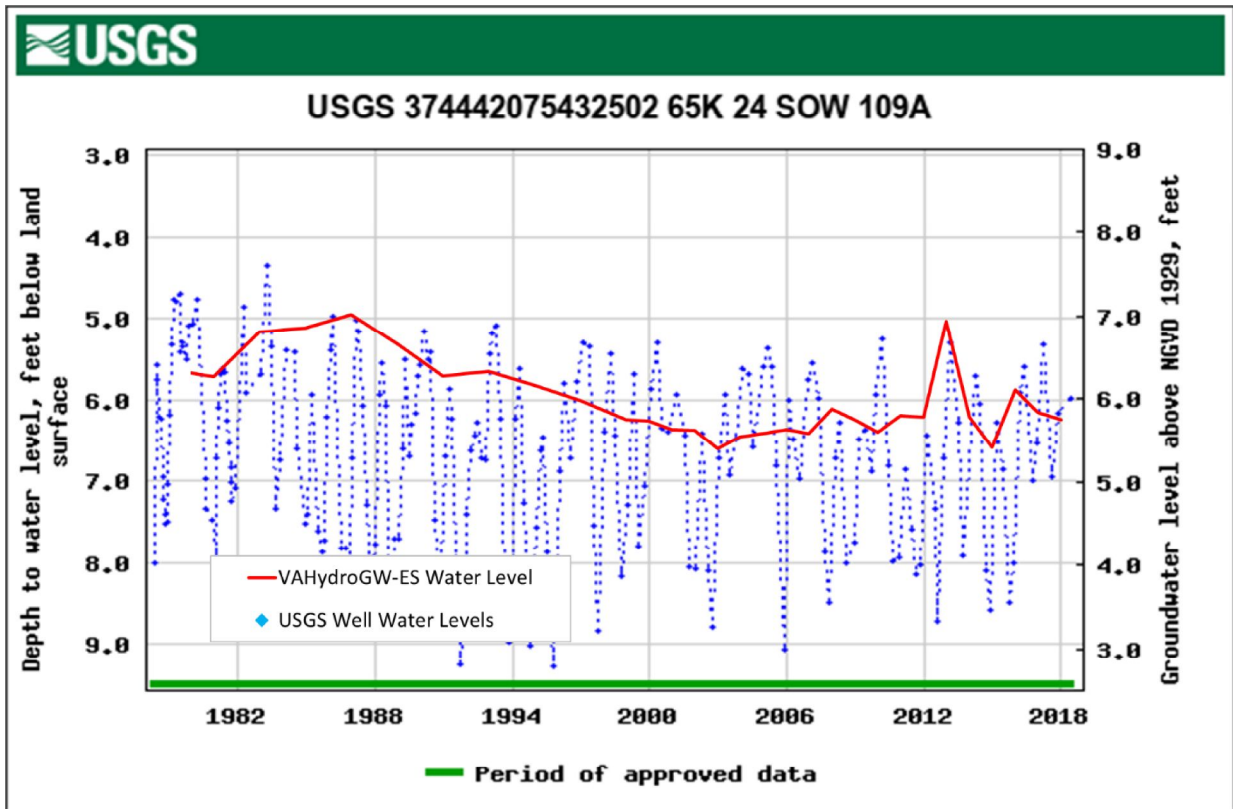


Figure 2. USGS Regional Observation Well 65K 24 SOW 109A, Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1978 to present (well depth 130 ft bls, land surface 12 ft msl).

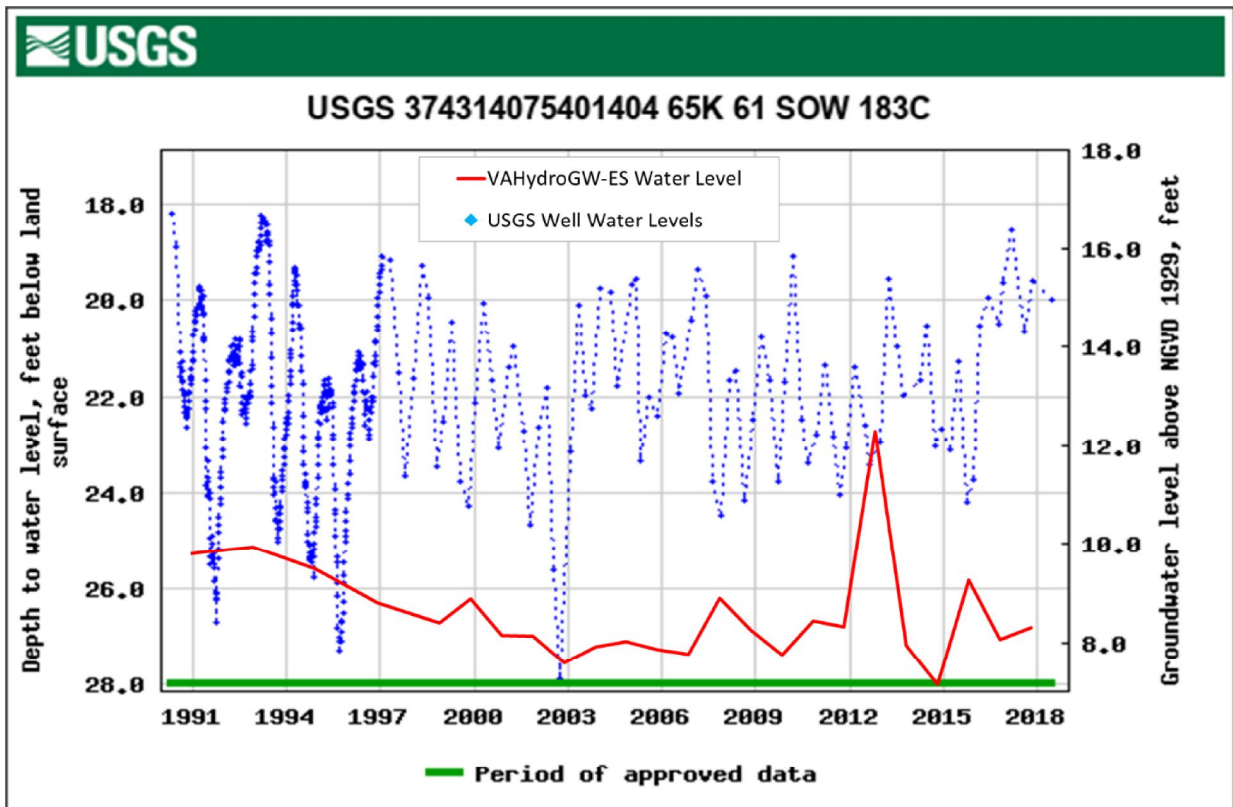


Figure 3. USGS Regional Observation Well 65K 61 SOW 183C, Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1990 to present (well depth 135 ft bls, land surface 35 ft msl).

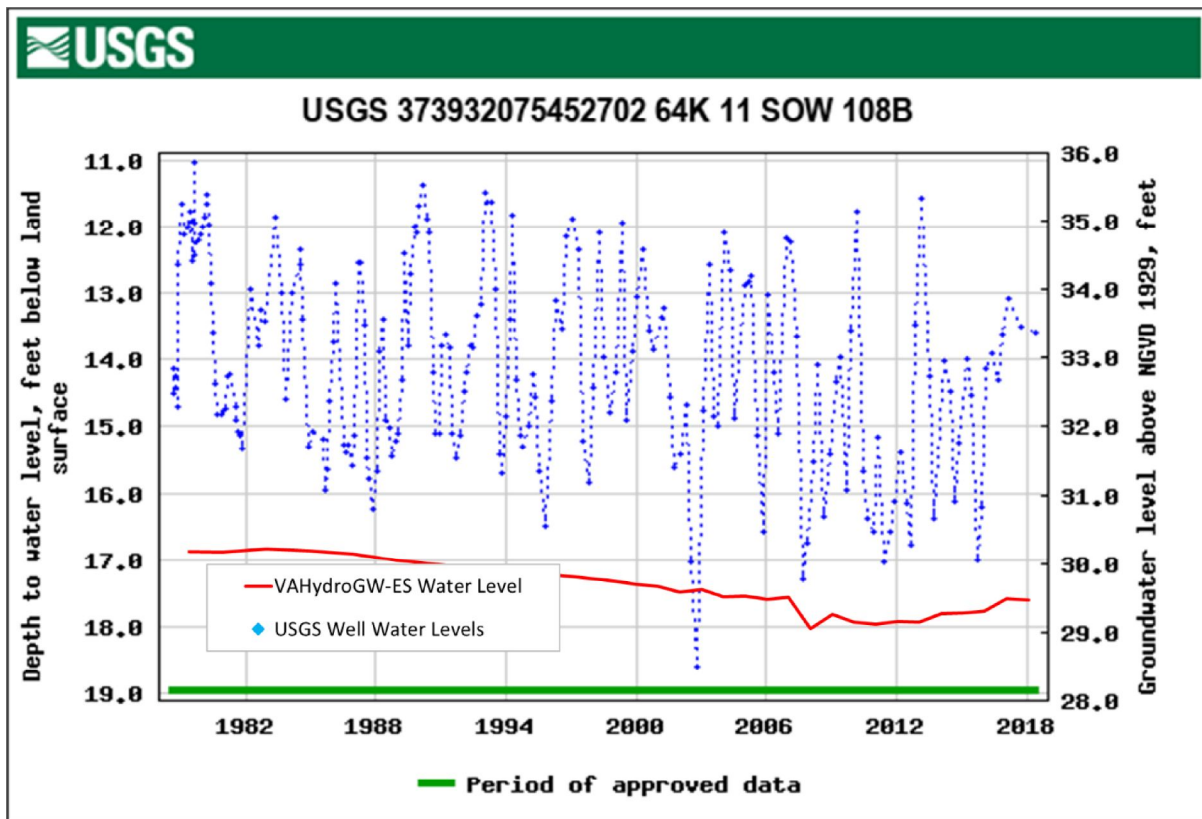


Figure 4. USGS Regional Observation Well 64K 11 SOW 108B, Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1978 to present (well depth 180 ft bls, land surface 47 ft msl).

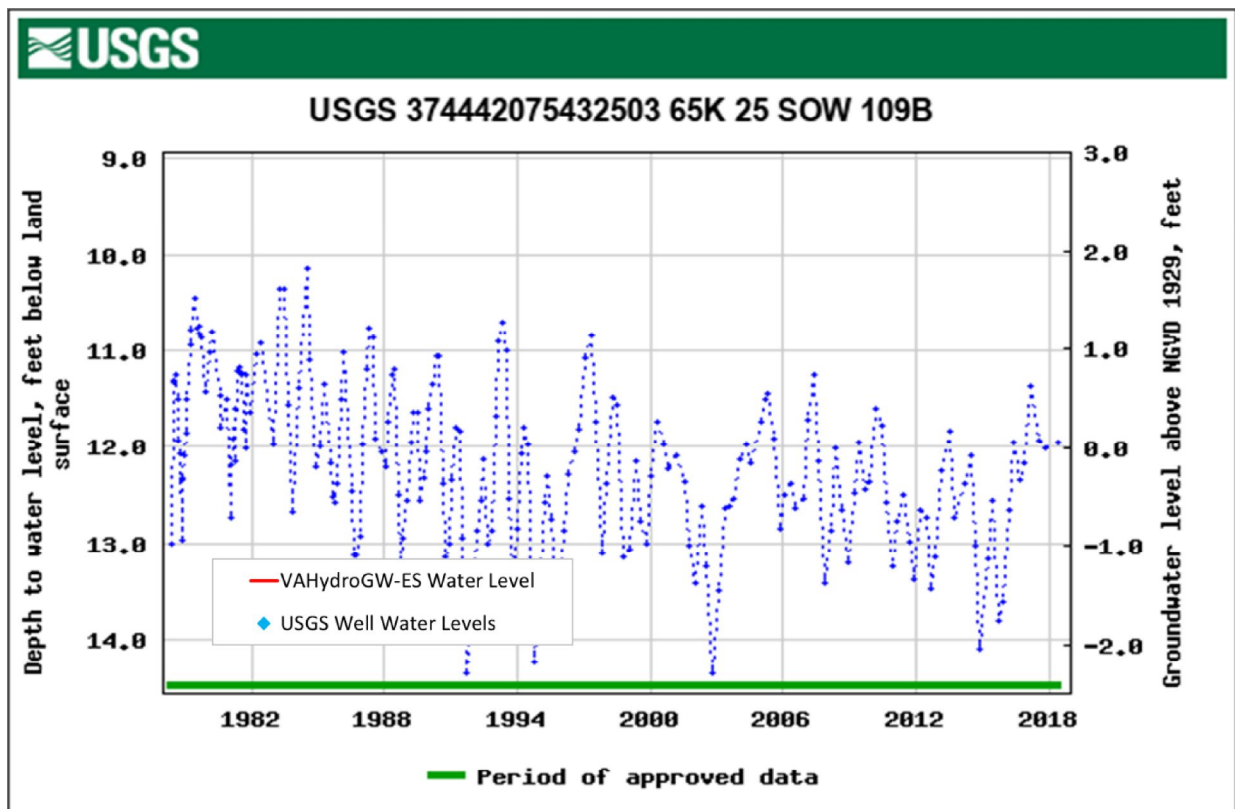


Figure 5. USGS Regional Observation Well 65K 25 SOW 109B, Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1978 to present (well depth 228 ft bls, land surface 12 ft msl).

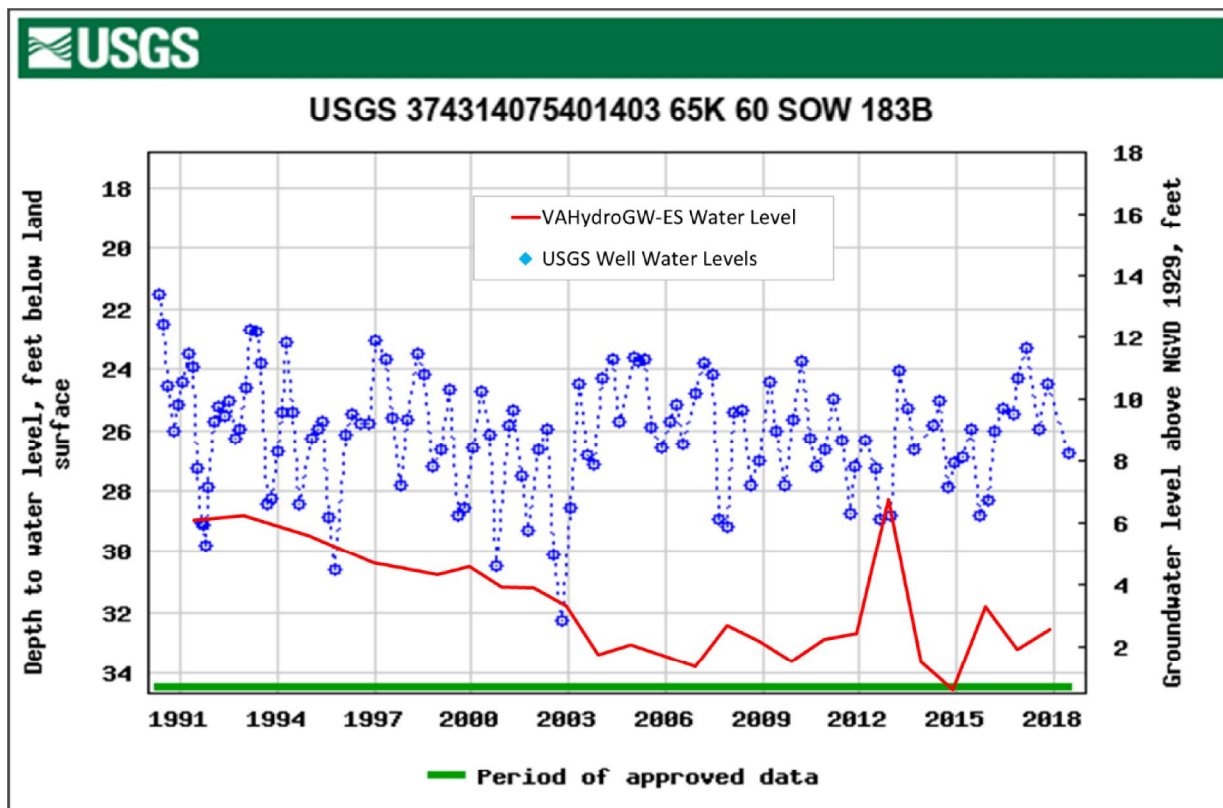


Figure 6. USGS Regional Observation Well 65K 60 SOW 183B, Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1990 to present (well depth 235 ft bls, land surface 35 ft msl).

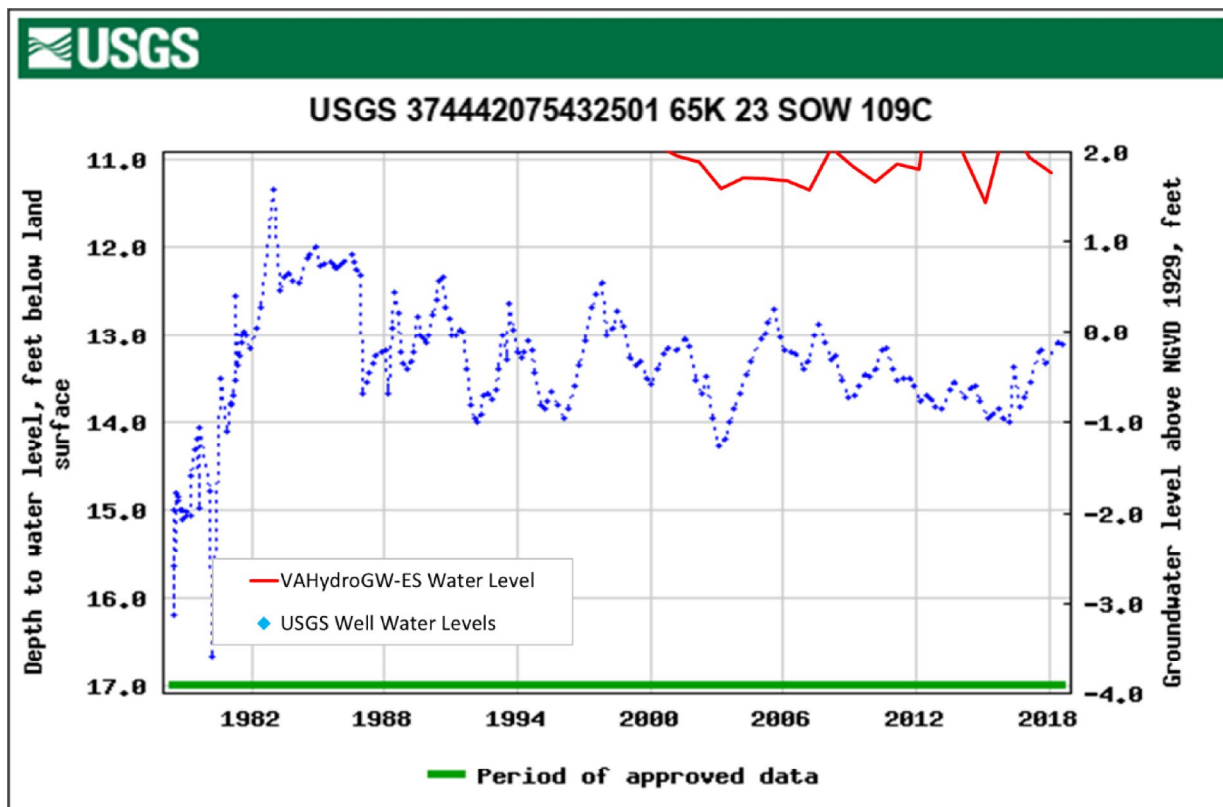


Figure 7. USGS Regional Observation Well 65K 23 SOW 109C, Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1978 to present (well depth 290 ft bls, land surface 13 ft msl).

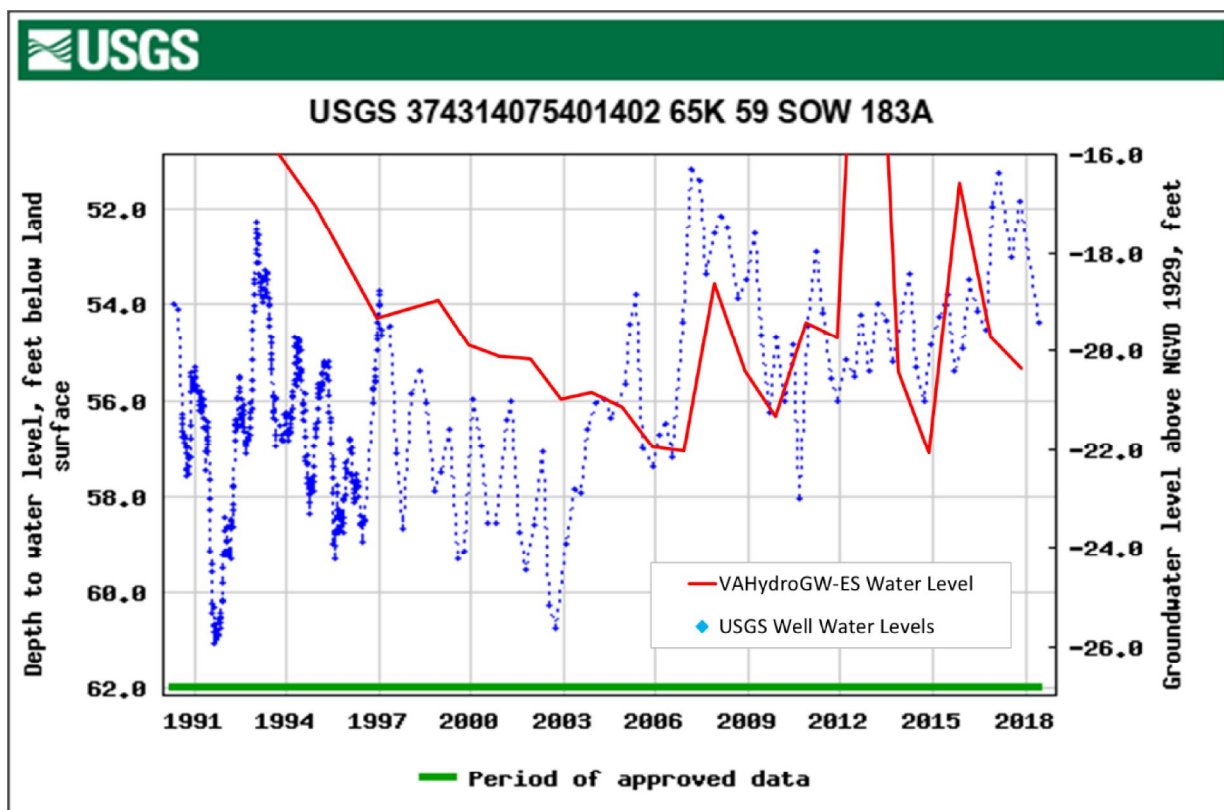


Figure 8. USGS Regional Observation Well 65K 59 SOW 183A, Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1990 to present (well depth 285 ft bls, land surface 35 ft msl).

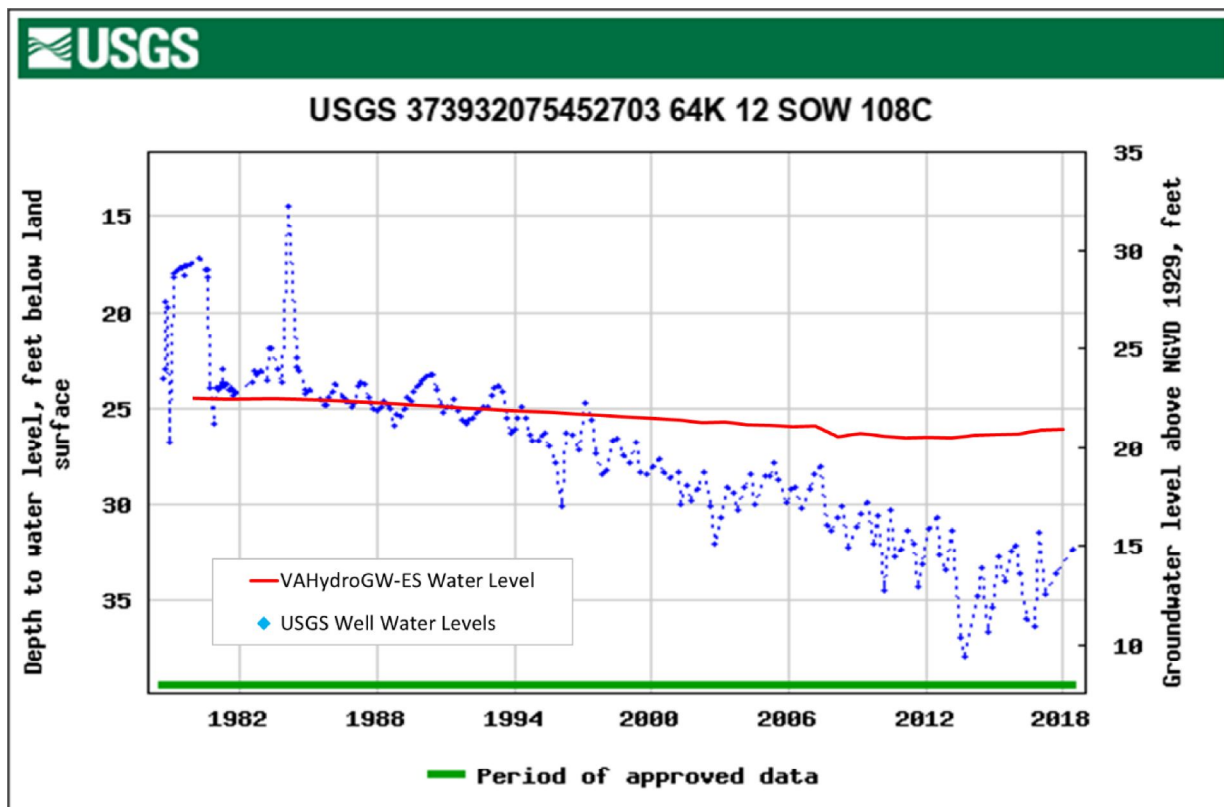


Figure 9. USGS Regional Observation Well 64K 21 SOW 108C, Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer water levels recorded from 1978 to present (well depth 284 ft bls, land surface 47 ft msl).

Aquifer Test(s):

An aquifer test has not been conducted for this system and the VAHydroGW-ES model was used to evaluate the application. The following table provides the average hydrogeologic properties assigned to the VAHydroGW-ES cell(s) containing the applicant wells.

Virginia Eastern Shore Model Hydrogeologic Properties: Row 163&164/Column 57&58							
Aquifer	Top Elevation (feet msl)	Top Elevation (feet bls)	Aquifer Thickness (feet)	Horizontal Conductivity (feet/day)	Vertical Conductivity (feet/day)	Specific Storage (1/feet)	Specific Yield
Columbia	9	0	39	56	0.5	0.00001	0.15
Upper Yorktown-Eastover	-95	104	45	6	6.7	0.000004	N/A
Middle Yorktown-Eastover	-172	181	41	5	4.0	0.000004	N/A
Lower Yorktown-Eastover	-238	247	88	4	3.1	0.000004	N/A

Model Results

Evaluation of Withdrawal Impacts:

The VAHydroGW-ES model was used to simulate the effects resulting from the proposed withdrawal due to the multi-aquifer impacts. The stabilized effects resulting from the proposed withdrawal were simulated at the annual permitted withdrawal rate of 10,000,000 gallons per year (27,397 average gpd). The stabilized effects were simulated by replacing the reported use amounts in the 2017 VAHydroGW-ES Reported Use Simulation with the current maximum annual withdrawal limit allowed under the terms of their permit for all Ground Water Management Area (GWMA) permit holders. That same simulation was executed twice, once with the proposed withdrawal removed (the *baseline simulation*), and once with the proposed withdrawal added (the *proposed withdrawal simulation*). The stabilized effects of the proposed withdrawal were considered by simulating both simulations for 50 years and observing the difference in water potentiometric levels at the end of the simulations.

Area of Impact:

The area of impact (AOI) for an aquifer is the area where the additional drawdown due to the proposed withdrawal exceeds one foot. The results of the VAHydroGW-ES simulations, outlined in the preceding section, predict areas of impact in the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers. The AOI areas extend a maximum distance of approximately 0.7, 0.9, and 1.2 miles from the production center for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers. AOI maps for all affected aquifers are attached to this report.

80 % Drawdown:

The 80% drawdown criterion was evaluated for all impacted, confined aquifers in the Virginia Eastern Shore using the VAHydroGW-ES *proposed withdrawal simulation*. The elevations of the top of the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers at the VAHydroGW-ES cell (row 163, column 58) simulating the greatest drawdown are -95, -172, and -239 feet msl, respectively. Based on the results of the *proposed withdrawal simulation* the predicted potentiometric water levels at the same VAHydroGW-ES cell are 4.4, 3.4, and -38.1 feet msl for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, respectively. The 80% drawdown criterion allows the potentiometric water level (based on the critical surface elevation calculated from the VAHydroGW-ES data) to be reduced to -74.3, -135.8, and -189.1 feet msl in the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers, respectively. Therefore, the water levels in the VAHydroGW-ES cell containing the applicant wells for each confined aquifer are not simulated to fall below the critical surface. Additionally, no new VAHydroGW-ES cells are simulated to have water levels

fall below the critical surface. Therefore, this withdrawal is within the limits set by the 80% drawdown criterion.

The requested withdrawal is allocated 100% to the Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer. The technical evaluation analysis indicated that the apportionment of the requested withdrawal amount among the applicant production wells had no significant effect on the outcome of the technical evaluation.

Water Quality:

The EPA has established the National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations (NSDWRs) which are non-enforceable guidelines regulating contaminants that may cause cosmetic or aesthetic (such as taste, odor, or color) effects in drinking water. The EPA recommends the secondary standards to water systems – states may choose to adopt them as enforceable standards. The EPA NSDWRs specify the limit on chloride as 250 mg/L.

The VAHydroGW-ES was created "to help the Commonwealth and local water managers better plan water use and estimate future changes in water and salinity levels in response to changes in water use."⁴ Use of the model to predict future chloride concentrations results in a "general useful understanding of system behavior, but water-resource managers must be careful in trusting the accuracy of predictions at individual wells from a regional model."⁵ Further, chloride concentrations at individual wells, predicted using the regional model, should not be relied upon to predict actual concentrations at those locations.

The potential for adverse changes to water quality due to the requested withdrawal was evaluated using transient, density-dependent, SEAWAT simulations using the VAHydroGW-ES. Two simulations were executed – one simulation without the proposed withdrawal included and a second with the proposed withdrawal included. Both simulations were executed for 50 years. And both used the 2017 total permitted stresses, concentrations, and heads as starting conditions. In an effort to simulate the long-term effects on water quality due to the proposed withdrawal, the amount of 10,000,000 gallons per year (27,397 average gpd) was used for the duration of the second simulation. The maximum simulated chloride concentration increase of 189 mg/L was observed in the Upper Yorktown-Eastover confining unit. The maximum simulated chloride concentration increase in the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer was 66 mg/L. Therefore, the VAHydroGW-ES model results do indicate a moderate potential for reduced water quality as a result of the proposed withdrawal. All Upper Yorktown-Eastover confining unit and Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer cells simulating a chloride increase in excess of 25 mg/L are show in the attached maps.

Conclusion:

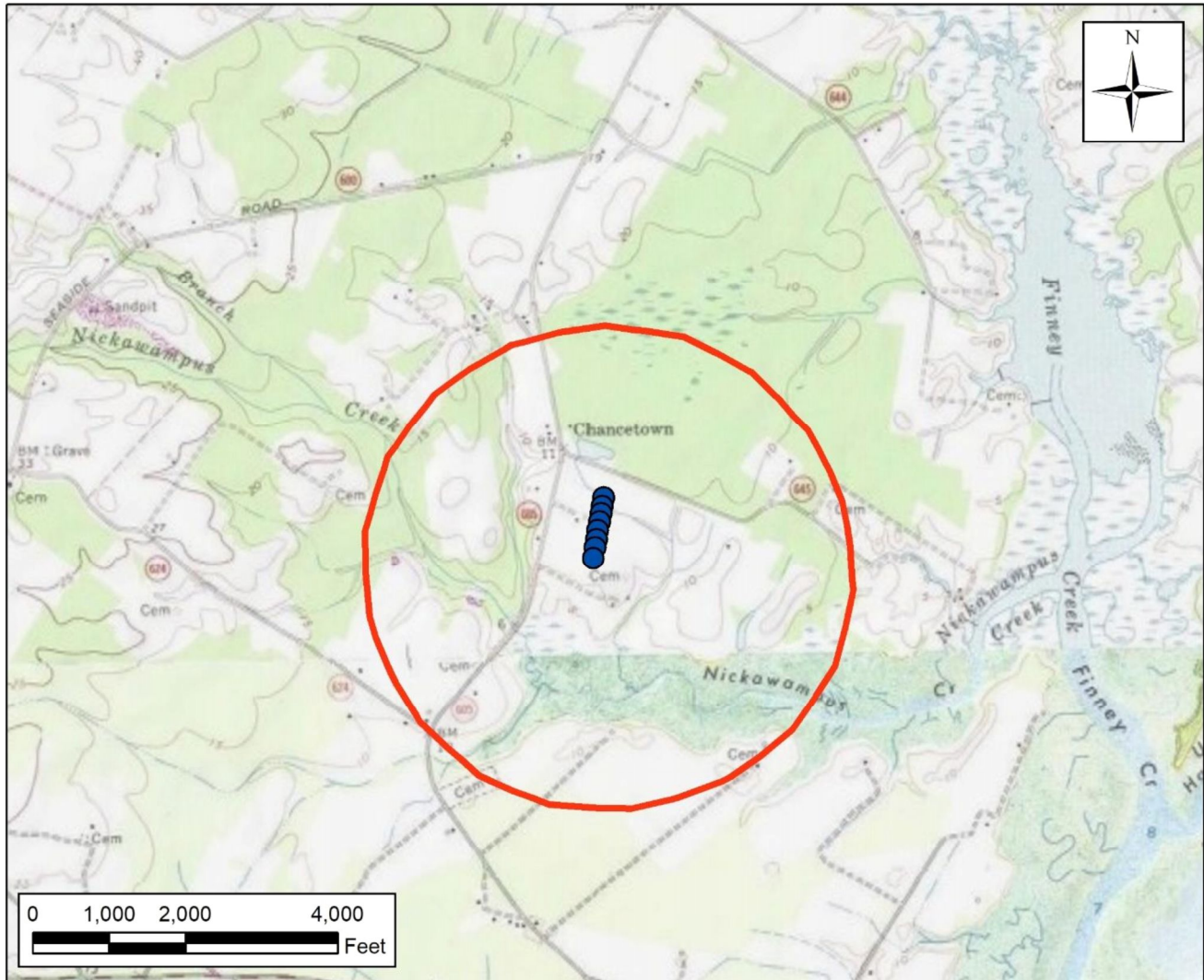
The withdrawal requested by McChicken Farms LLC for the McChicken Farms withdrawal satisfies the technical evaluation criteria for permit issuance. The AOIs for the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers are shown in the following maps. There are no existing permitted wells located within the applicant's AOI.

⁴ Sanford, W.E., Pope, J.P., and Nelms, D.L., 2009, Simulation of groundwater-level and salinity changes in the Eastern Shore, Virginia: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2009–5066, 125 p.

⁵ Sanford, W.E. and Pope, J.P., 2009, Current challenges using models to forecast seawater intrusion: lessons from the Eastern Shore of Virginia, USA. Hydrogeology Journal (2009), Volume: 18, Issue: 1, p: 73-93

McChicken Farms

Area of Impact - Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer



● McChicken Farms Wells

○ Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer Area of Impact

Simulated drawdown at or exceeding one foot in the Upper Yorktown-Eastover aquifer resulting from a 10,000,000 gallons per year (27,397 average gpd), 50 year withdrawal from the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers using the VAHydroGW-ES.

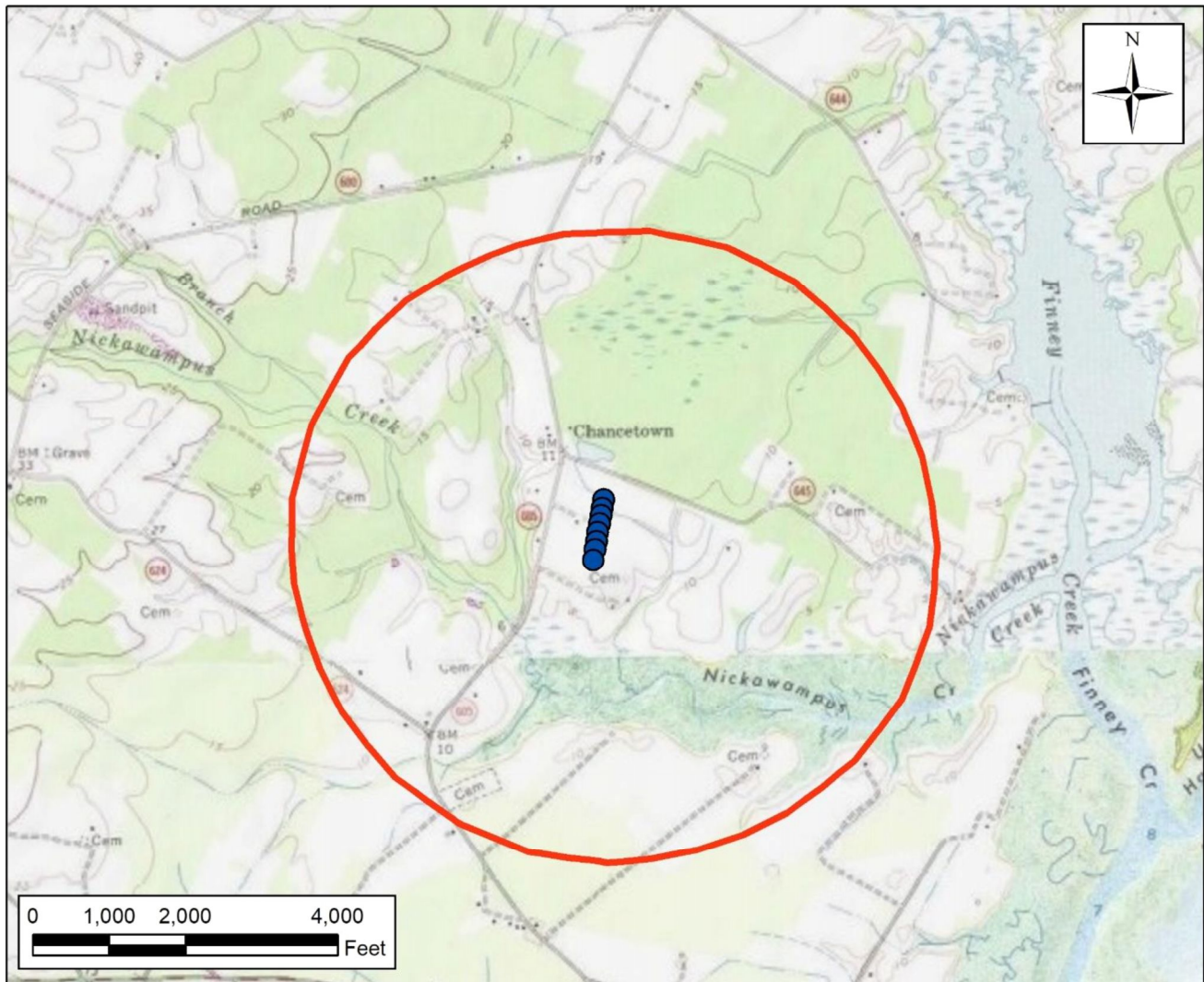
Maximum radius of one foot drawdown (Area of Impact) extends approximately 0.7 miles from the pumping center.

Technical evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
December 14, 2018



McChicken Farms

Area of Impact - Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer



● McChicken Farms Wells

○ Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer Area of Impact

Simulated drawdown at or exceeding one foot in the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer resulting from a 10,000,000 gallons per year (27,397 average gpd), 50 year withdrawal from the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers using the VAHydroGW-ES.

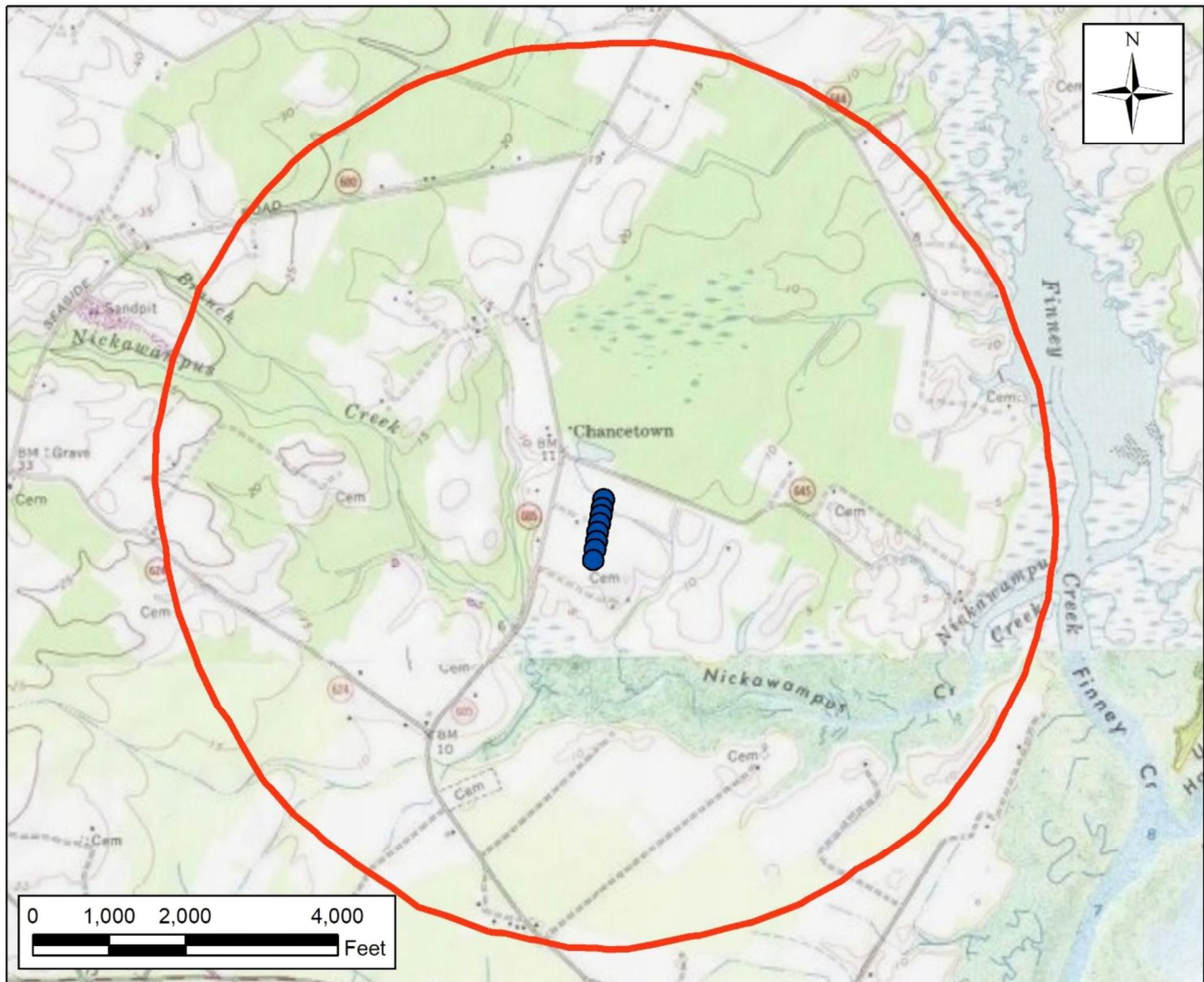
Maximum radius of one foot drawdown (Area of Impact) extends approximately 0.9 miles from the pumping center.

Technical evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
December 14, 2018



McChicken Farms

Area of Impact - Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer



● McChicken Farms Wells

○ Lower Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer Area of Impact

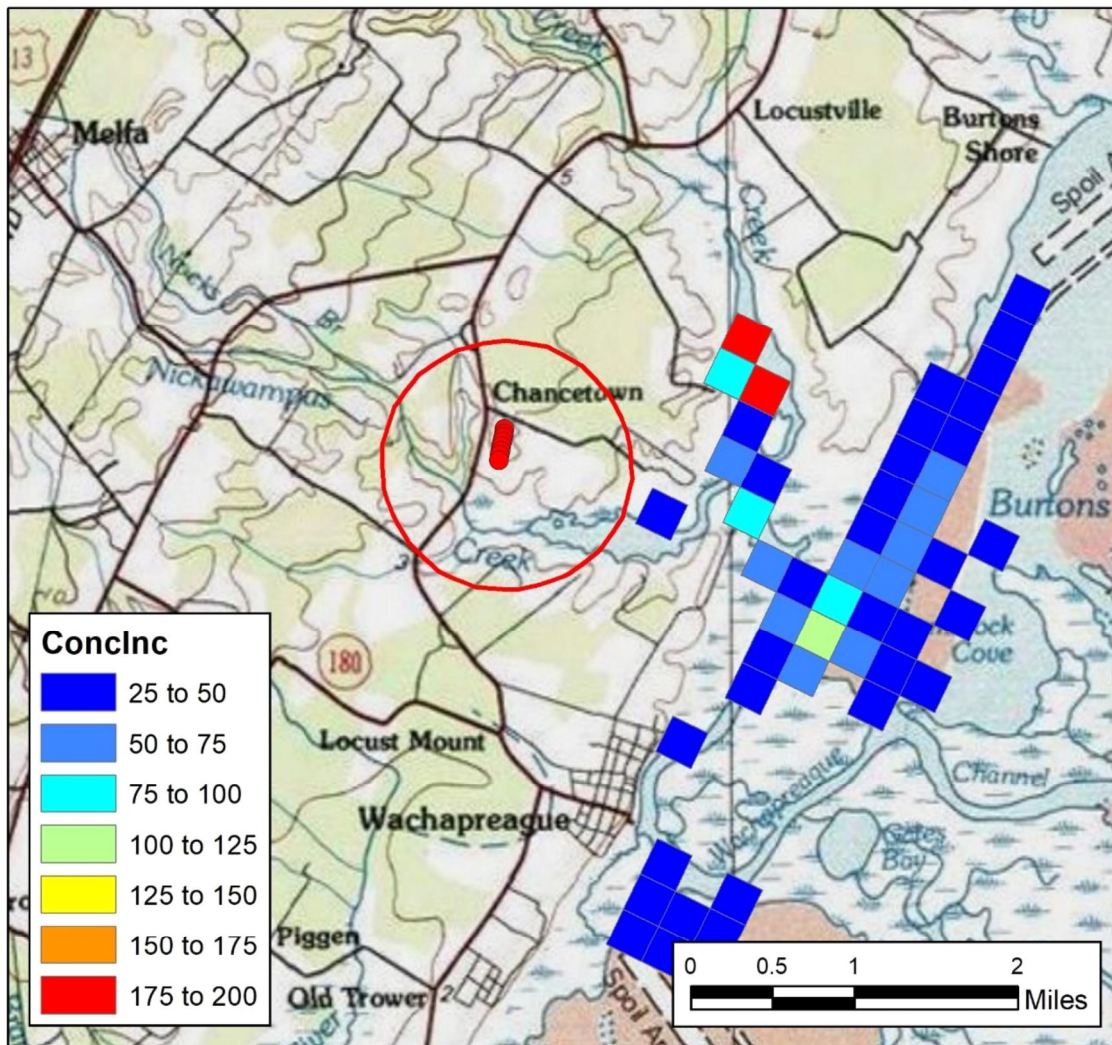
Simulated drawdown at or exceeding one foot in the Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer resulting from a 10,000,000 gallons per year (27,397 average gpd), 50 year withdrawal from the Upper, Middle, and Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifers using the VAHydroGW-ES.

Maximum radius of one foot drawdown (Area of Impact) extends approximately 1.2 miles from the pumping center.

Technical evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
December 14, 2018



McChicken Farms - Upper Yorktown-Eastover Confining Unit - Simulated VESM Chloride Concentration Increase



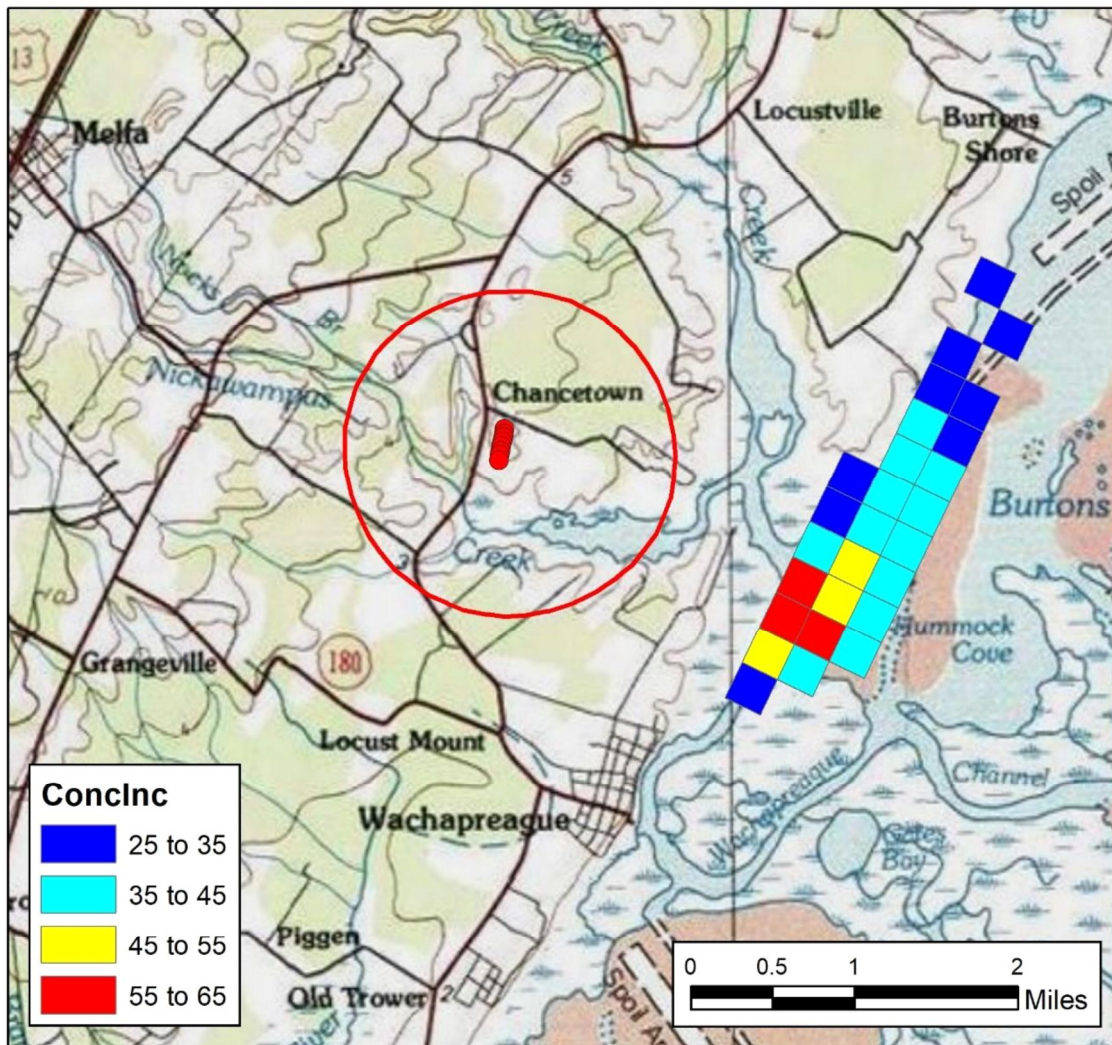
- Upper Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer AOI
- McChicken Farms

Simulated chloride concentration increase in the Upper Yorktown-Eastover confining unit resulting from a 50 year simulation of 10,000,000 gallons per year from the Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer.

Technical Evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
February 7, 2019



McChicken Farms - Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer - Simulated VESM Chloride Concentration Increase



- Middle Yorktown-Eastover Aquifer AOI
- McChicken Farms

Simulated chloride concentration increase in the Middle Yorktown-Eastover aquifer unit resulting from a 50 year simulation of 10,000,000 gallons per year from the Lower Yorktown-Eastover aquifer.

Technical Evaluation performed by Aquaveo, LLC for the Virginia DEQ, Office of Water Supply
February 7, 2019



